


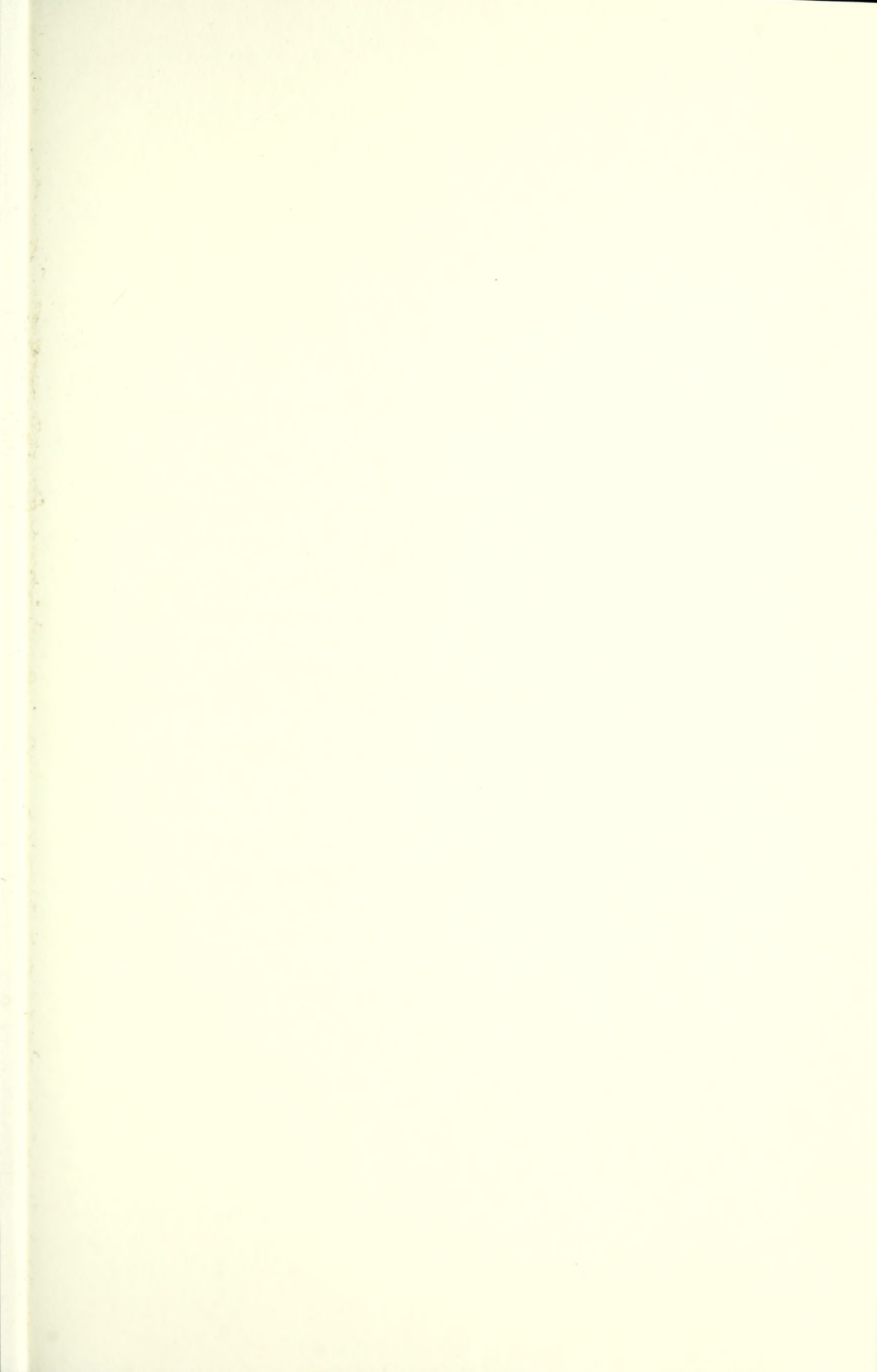




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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

JANUARY 1, 1981

NO. 1

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## AN OPEN BIBLE FOR THE WORLD

An open Bible for the world —  
May this our glorious motto be!  
On ev'ry breeze its flag unfurled  
Shall scatter blessings rich and free.

Where'er it goes, its golden light,  
Streaming as from an unveiled sun,  
Shall dissipate the clouds of night,  
Undo the work that sin has done.

It shows to men the Father's face,  
All radiant with forgiving love;  
And to the lost of Adam's race  
Proclaims sweet mercy from above.

It offers rest to weary hearts;  
It comforts those who sit in tears;  
To all who faint, it strength imparts,  
And gilds with hope th' eternal years.

— Henry M. King

## LIFE

The coming of a new year is often symbolized by the young child replacing the old, weary man. This is an apt description of not only the passing of the old year but of the cycle of life itself. The new year very soon becomes the old year. Twelve months roll by ever so quickly. Life itself rolls by far quicker than we realize. Soon the new born child will become the aged grandparent living in the sunset of life. But many who begin the journey do not see advanced years for they are called from this life in youth or middle years.

The new year denotes a time of starting over and hopefulness. We hope our lives will be more pleasing to God. We often make resolutions to that end. Life itself begins with this hopefulness. The child enters the world with the possibility that he will have a productive and godly life. There is such a great opportunity at the beginning of each life. But alas that opportunity is too often squandered. Then when that person is old, he looks back wistfully at the life nearly past and bemoans the wasted opportunity.

The beginning of the new year is a good time to consider the source of life itself, which is God. God first created Adam and Eve and set them in the Garden of Eden. But His creative powers did not end there for He created them with the ability to conceive and give birth to children. In this way, God has provided for the continuation of the human family. After the Flood, the earth was again populated through the God-given capacity of Noah's family. From Adam and Eve and from Noah's family we all descend. Human life continues from generation to generation because God

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## THE BIBLE MONITOR

## JANUARY 1, 1981

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

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first gave life and then through that life enabled mankind to be perpetuated.

Time and circumstance might by chance blow together a pile of dust but only God could have formed that dust into the specialized and interconnected organs that make up the human body. A pile of dust blown together by the wind, no matter how strong or persistent that wind might be, could never have become a living soul. The wind may have power and it may be able to move a boat by its sails, but it could only move about that pile of dust it could never dwell within it. But God did supply the breathe of life that that pile of dust needed to become a living being.

The breath that God put in that intricately fashioned body was more than simply the air needed by the lungs and the respiratory system. It was the life that only God could give. The air needed by the lungs and the body was not the only breathe of life that God breathed into mankind. He breathed the eternal breath of life into man, which is beyond the spirit of the physical life.

Men may be alive physically yet be dead spiritually for they have only the spirit of man. They have only the breath of life that is necessary for the sustaining of the organs of the body.

The Spiritual life involves that part of man that is eternal. The soul of a man is eternal and will either spend that eternity in Heaven or Hell. If a man enjoys only physical life that eternity will be spent in the place prepared for the enemy of every man's soul, Satan. If a man not only has physical life but spiritual life as well, then his eternity will be spent with the One who gave that eternal breath of life, God. That spiritual life can only be a reality when that man is reborn spiritually. When God is allowed to have the place in a man's life that He deserves, then that man is rescued from death and given a new life.

This rebirth can only be accomplished through an acknowledgment by that man that he is not pleasing God, because of the sins in his life. He must make these wrongs, right. But at his very best, he is unable to pay any price that will nullify those sins. The only remedy that he has is Jesus Christ, who has paid that price for him. He must believe and accept that gift if it is to have any meaning for him. He must acknowledge and repent of his sins and be baptized for their remission. Then the Spirit of God can dwell within him to give him a life that is superior to his physical life. This is the life that will make the physical life only a stepping stone toward eternity.

As we enter a new year, and our hearts and minds are filled with hope for the new year, it is a good time to begin a new life. Now is the time to begin our preparations for our eternal life. Have you made your preparations for a real life, not only this year, but for eternity?

## THE WATCH

Mark 13:33-37

A boy wanted a watch very much. Every little bit, he asked, "May I have a watch?" or "When can you get me a watch?" or "I want a watch, Dad." Finally after hearing this many times, his dad said, "Son, we've heard enough about this watch business. We can't get you one now, but we will as soon as we can afford it. Until then, you are not to say one more word about it." The next morning during devotions, each family member gave a Bible verse. The boy, said, "What I say unto you I say unto all, Watch!" Mark 13:37.

This boy was determined to have a watch — a device to measure time — and could think about little else. We, too, should be thinking about a watch, but not just a timepiece. Our lives each day are governed by measurements of time, but someday time will run out and eternity will begin. Our watch should prepare us for Eternity, and to do this, our living during the entire year must be centered on Christ. If we are not watching, we aren't ready for even the year's end, much less Eternity.

On New Year's Eve, alot of watching is done for the moment when the clock strikes twelve, the old year ends and the new one begins. So many people simply close the year with drinking and carousing. To them, watching the old year end means a time for self-indulgence. They do not choose to begin the New Year with a clear mind and a strong awareness of God. There is no watching for God's hand at work and no consideration of what His will is for them. How then should we watch?

"Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set a WATCH against them day and night, because of them." Neh. 4:9. When the Jews were rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem, their enemies united to hinder them. It was necessary to set a watch or guard to warn of any attacks. We also have enemies and we need to watch so we will not be hindered spiritually. Carelessness and ignorance of Satan's tactics will not gain us the victory; watching and trusting in Jesus will.

"Set a WATCH, O Lord, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips." Psalms 141:3. Whatever comes out of your mouth started in your heart, and a watch is necessary to get rid of or keep out bad thoughts. Our tongues need a watch or guard to keep us from saying unkind things or from speaking when silence is best. We can be helpful if we speak the right words at the right moment, but otherwise the door to our lips must stay closed.

"My soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that WATCH for the morning." Psalms 130:6a. On New Year's Eve, people watch for

the morning, but there is very little waiting for the Lord. Our souls need the Lord, His mercy, guidance and strength. Morning is the beginning of a new day. Our souls need a spiritual morning, a new day of fellowship with God. If we wait upon Him, the necessary strength for Christian living will be provided.

"WATCH therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come." Matt. 24:42. Watching is important. Why? Because we don't know what our future will bring and the only way to be ready is to watch. In other words, while we work here, we must watch and be ready for Eternity. The Lord may return anytime or we could die suddenly. Who knows? So watch and be ready.

"WATCH ye therefore, and pray always." Luke 21:36a. "WATCH and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Matt. 26:41. What should you do while you watch? Pray! Why pray? So you won't fall into temptation. Prayer is the guard for our souls, one which is much needed. We are not strong enough to resist temptation alone, but we receive strength when we pray.

"Continue in prayer, and WATCH in the same with thanksgiving." Col. 4:2. Being thankful is another part of our prayer watch. God deserves and expects our gratitude in prayer. Expressing our thanks makes us more aware of our blessings and helps keep selfishness out of our hearts.

"Be WATCHFUL, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found thy works perfect before God." Rev. 3:2. As God looks down on your life at the close of 1980, is He pleased? Or would He have to say your works are not perfect? Our perfection is in Christ, it is Christ living within Who makes us spiritually alive. Be sure you have Him in your heart as you begin 1981, center your life around Him. Then whenever He returns, you will be ready and watching.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## A CHRISTIAN

We are told the disciples were first called Christians at Antioch (Acts 11:23) about A.D. 43. The meaning of the name "Christian" is a follower of Christ, to be like Him. We do not need to have a college education to be a Christian. Many Christians today have little education, but when it comes to reading God's precious Word they surely can read it and follow its teachings.

A Christian in the world today is like gold in the ore. At death the pure gold is melted out and separated and the dross cast away and consumed. A Christian before the world today is the highest type

of an individual, because he is pure and Holy before God. He is one who has his sins washed away by the blood of the Lamb and he is now a new creature. In order to be a Christian we must live a pure and simple life before the world, as we are the only Bible some know. We are always to have our minds pure and centered on that Heavenly Home which we hope to reach when our race has come to a close.

This world we live in will soon pass away and if we have not lived for the Lord, where will we go? Let us not keep bad company. If we do we will soon be like an apple that was bad and placed into a basket of good ones so it won't be long till they will all go bad. So it is with a person that runs around with bad company he soon will be like them. They will lead him into the trap Satan has drawn them into. He will paint the way with roses ever so fine but dear ones be careful don't let him deceive you. Let us never underestimate Satan for he is never idle. He is always on the go seeking whom he can destroy. Everything will be a flowery path until within his trap you have fallen. Bad company is a little like a nail being driven into a post. After the first or second blow, it usually will come out easily, but after it is driven into the head you will have trouble if you try to take it out. The same with associating with bad company. The more time you spend with them, the harder it will be to leave them and they finally will win you and you will follow them instead of the dear Lord. I pray if you are one of these people you will stop before it is too late.

If you become a little discouraged ask for help from on High and see some one who has followed Christ for years and is strong in the faith. Ask him to help you over this trying time and I am sure he will help you. If we see some one who is weak help them. Give them encouraging words, don't just ignore them.

Many times we are wrong but we won't admit it, but dear one if you do admit it you are a little wiser. Every time we overcome a temptation we grow a little stronger. A true proverb of the wise man, let us think on it, is: "Better is little with the fear of God than great treasures, and trouble therewith."

As a Christian our walk of life is not all roses while we live here below, we must have a lot of patience and courage. We are told that courage is not blindly overlooking danger, but being able to see it, and conquer it.

Let us never covet that which belongs to another. As a Christian parent let us use our spare time in training our dear children in the way He would have them go. If you are a Christian you will be honest in all that you do whether it is with people you work with or anyone you do business with. We have all heard the statement that

if you are not honest and would cheat your fellowman, you would cheat God.

Let us drink of that living water and have our souls fed with the Words of God, always putting Christ first in our daily walk of life, for we are a new creature in Christ Jesus, old things have passed away and all things are become new. II Cor. 5:17.

Many are looking today for a fortune to come to them, so they can do many things and enjoy themselves. Did they ever stop and think of the fortune they would receive when life here is ended if they were a child of God? There is nothing we could win in this world that would ever compare to that beautiful home Christ has prepared for all the faithful. We can have eternal life if we are willing to follow the terms Christ has outlined for His true followers. How many today are willing to go all the way with the Lord? If you will work and lay up treasures in Heaven, that fortune is there waiting for you. What a wonderful fortune is a Home in Heaven.

We have no right to call ourselves Christians, unless we have been born again and are living for Christ. We must forsake all even those whom we love. Luke 14:26, "If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple." We all must meet the dear Lord and give account of the deeds we have done while we live here. Christ keeps a record and if your name is not found in the book of life, where will you spend eternity? Let each of us get busy and do all we can to bring souls into the vineyard. The time is getting short and the labourers are few. I am sure none of us want to be left out of that number when the roll is called up yonder. All want to be there.

A Christian's work is not confined to the Church. Many have been brought to Christ through personal work. Remember the story in the Bible about the feast being ready and those who were invited to the feast refused to come. So the servants were sent out into the streets and lanes and invited them in. When they came there was still room so the master sent out again into the highways and hedges to compel them to come in. Let us not wait for sinners to come to Church. Let us get out and invite them to come and worship with us. Some may refuse but the harvest is great so there will always be someone whom we know we could invite. Let us each do all we can to help others to see that the life of a Christian is a happy and rewarding one.

I do not know what lies ahead

The way I cannot see

Yet one stands near to be my guide

He'll show the way to me.  
I know who holds the future  
And I know He holds my hand  
With God things don't just happen  
Everything by Him is planned.  
So as I face tomorrow  
With its problems large or small  
I'll trust the God of miracles  
Give to Him my all.

Sister E. M. Alltus

## **THE CHILDREN'S PAGE**

### **THE LEPER MADE PERFECTLY WHOLE**

Luke 17:11-19

Leprosy is a terrible disease. When Jesus was here nearly two thousand years ago, there was no cure for it. Today it can be cured but it takes a long time. One who has leprosy has to go where there are others that have the disease and away from their family and loved ones. In the time of Jesus lepers were allowed to walk about but when they came close to anyone, they were to call out, "Unclean, unclean", so that others who were well and healthy would not touch them and get leprosy.

Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem. As He passed through Samaria and Galilee He entered a village where there were ten lepers. These men knew they were not allowed to come close to others and when Jesus met them they stood afar off. There was no law that said they couldn't talk to people, so they called to Jesus and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." I am sure those lepers knew who Jesus was. They may have talked to others that had been healed of leprosy by Jesus. Jesus could heal any kind of disease. It didn't make any difference what it was. He could make the blind see and the deaf hear. The Bible tells us, "As many as touched Him were made perfectly whole." The ten lepers knew they were not allowed to touch Jesus but they seemed to know that Jesus could heal them.

Jesus never let anyone down who asked for help. He said to the ten lepers, "Go show yourselves unto the priests." Sometimes leprosy would be healed, nobody knows how or why; but when a person felt they didn't have leprosy anymore, they had to go to the priests who kept them for fourteen days. After certain observations, washings and sacrifices if the man showed no sign of leprosy, the priest would pronounce him clean and he would be free to go back to his family and friends.

I don't know what the ten lepers thought when Jesus told them to show themselves to the priests but they started out. As they were walking along, what do you think happened? All of a sudden they didn't have leprosy anymore. They were all healed. Can't you just hear them telling each other all about it? I'm sure they were excited and jubilant to think that now they were healed of leprosy.

One of the ten, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God. He fell down on his face at the feet of Jesus and thanked Him for healing him, and this man was a Samaritan. Jesus said, "Were there not ten cleansed, but where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God save this stranger."

Jesus said unto him, "Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole."

What did the one who came back to thank Jesus get that the other nine did not? They were all cleansed of their leprosy. Jesus said that this one was made whole. There are two parts to all of us: the natural and the spiritual. The spiritual is the unseen part of us which is called, the soul, and it is the most important. Jesus had the power to forgive sins and I'm sure that is what happened to this man. His body was cleansed of leprosy. His soul was cleansed of sin and he was made whole.

When we have sin in our lives we are not what God would like for us to be. Jesus can make you whole. Come to Him and tell Him about the sin in your life and He will forgive you and take it all away. Jesus says, "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart and ye shall find rest unto your soul. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Brother Rudy Cover

## DANGEROUS THEOLOGY IN THE CHURCH

In Romans 1:22 and 25 we read, "Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools... Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen."

We would like to express our concern about a false teaching that is sweeping across christendom like a mighty fire. Most Bible believing Christians will strongly oppose a humanistic form of the teaching of evolution. However, it is alarming how many become susceptible to this erroneous teaching when God is supposedly given the credit.

It is our desire to make our fellow Brothers and Sisters in Christ aware of the term "Theistic Evolution" and the dangers that lie

therein. First of all we would like to look at the "hard core" theistic evolutionists. This group of individuals teach that God is not a person but "the source of energy." In their minds life began by some sort of catastrophe. At this point in time life supposedly began in a very simple form. This "creation" then evolved into several higher forms, one of which was man. According to them, man at some point in time felt the need to worship. He, therefore, worshipped rocks and trees and other things of nature. Later man, supposedly, "created" spirits or gods in his mind for worship. They say that at the time of Abraham, which is the start of Bible history according to them, man decided to worship one God. They will tell you that the ones who accepted this "new" concept started a new religion. It is important to remember that they believe that this one God "found by man" is not the God of the Bible but "the source of energy". In other words man is really his own god!

Out of the "hard core" theistic evolution teaching has come less drastic, yet more subtle, therefore more dangerous, theological thinking. There are also related issues to this teaching that are causing problems within the church. One of these is the "Is God male or female?" discussion. While the surface argument is the satanic thinking of equal rights in the church for women, the deeper-lying, diabolical goal is to "show that God is neither male nor female," therefore NOT A PERSON.

Another related teaching is that Jesus Christ was not born the Son of God but that he BECAME the son of God. Since God is not recognized as "The Father," Jesus Christ cannot be recognized as "God the Son." Instead he becomes a son of "the source of energy," who has evolved into an intellectual being who is years ahead of his counterparts in understanding morals and the plight of man!

Within the teaching of theistic evolution there is no fall, therefore no original sin and hence no need of salvation through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. Salvation becomes a corporate thing. It becomes man relieving the suffering of man. While Jesus Christ may be recognized as the best way to find "peace with God" he is not accepted as the ONLY way. This is understandable since God is not the Creator of the heavens and the earth by His spoken word nor is man created in the image of God in their thinking. Rather this "source of energy" is to be found in every living being!

The teachers of this theology see the kingdom of God in all of humankind, not just the Church. They expect to bring in a golden era when man will live in peace and things will be relatively serene. They do not look for nor expect the second coming of Jesus Christ.

Let us study the scriptures and pray that we may not fall victim to the many false teachings that surround us. Also let us remember it is not sufficient to only ignore these false teachings but to point out and expose them is the need of the hour.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch Street  
Palmyra, Pa. 17078

## PROPHETIC PERSPECTIVE

"About the time of the end, a body of men will be raised up who will turn their attention to the Prophecies, and insist upon their literal interpretation in the midst of much clamor and opposition." This statement was made about three hundred years ago by Sir Isaac Newton and is interesting indeed in light of current world events and the growing interest in Bible Prophecy. It is also very interesting when we compare the angelic messages given to Daniel and later to John. At the close of the book of Daniel, the angel told him (in Dan. 12:4) to "shut up the words and seal the book, even to the time of the end." Then again (in 12:9) the angel says, "Go thy way Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end." It seems as if the information given to Daniel was not all to be understood immediately. The message given to John in Revelation is a bit different however. In Rev. 1:3 we are encouraged, even blessed, to consider the "Revelation of Jesus Christ." "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein for the time is at hand." In Rev. 22:10 the angel finally says, "Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand." Surely as we "see the day approaching" God is awakening men's hearts and minds to the need of considering His Truth, for it is the only hope and the only answer.

As we consider this subject, I believe first of all, the answers to understanding the Bible are basically contained in the Bible itself. Reading commentaries and books can be very helpful, but many times results in more confusion. We need to go to the source of wisdom and understanding — God's Word — directed by His blessed Holy Spirit. When the subject of prophecy is discussed, some people are very attentive, eager to glean more truth and to share what they have learned; others grow fearful, perhaps afraid they may hear of destruction or tribulation to come upon the world; still others are apathetic, seemingly saying, "since the fathers fell asleep all things continue as they were," or, "things will take care of themselves."

The question is, "how do we keep this great subject in perspective in our lives?" I Cor. 12 speaks of gifts God has given to the Church, in verse 28 Paul says, "secondarily prophets", then in verse 31 he tells us to "covet earnestly the best gifts; and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way." What is this more excellent way? The entire 13th chapter is devoted to explaining it. It is love. We see then that this subject must be approached in an attitude of love. Many times this is not done and people get into intense disagreement over prophetic passages. Let's consider the practical words of James in chapter 3, verse 7. "But the wisdom that is from above is first pure." What does that mean? If our understanding is from above (God), it will first of all be scriptural. Any time we want to contend for a certain position (prophetic or not), let's make sure we are in harmony with the Word of God. The question is asked, "do we say 'amen' when we agree with the preacher or do we say 'amen' when the preacher agrees with the Word?" We had better be saying "amen" when we see or hear something agreeing with the Word of God, whether it is to our liking or not. Let's remember that the Old Testament prophets believed by simple faith that God meant what He said and they ordered their lives accordingly in spite of the climate of contemporary thinking. If we contact information that does not agree with the Scripture, then it is not from God for His people. James further says, "then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy." That is: the pure, scriptural wisdom needs to be applied with these Godly characteristics. "And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace."

In I John 3:2, John says, "Beloved now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be; but we know that when he shall appear, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is." He does not say we shall see Him as I think, or, as you think, but, "as he is." When He appeared the first time, the Pharisees and the greater part of the religious body of the day would not accept Him because He did not fit into their plans and thinking. There were some few however, (Simeon and Anna, for example) who were ready to receive Him as the Messiah, which He was and is.

The challenge I want to leave with us is: we need to study the Word and have our hearts prepared so that when He appears we will be ready to receive Him and we can be like Him when we "see him as he is." "And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure."

Brother Frank L. Reed  
Manheim, Pennsylvania

## WHAT ARE YOU BUILDING

A builder builded a temple;  
He wrought with care and skill.  
Pillars and posts and arches  
Were fashioned to meet his will;  
And men said when they saw its beauty:  
"It shall never know decay.  
Great is thy skill, O builder,  
Thy fame shall endure for aye."

A teacher builded a temple;  
She wrought with skill and care,  
Forming each pillar with patience.  
Laying each stone with prayer.  
None saw the unceasing effort;  
None knew of the marvelous plan;  
For the temple the teacher builded  
Was unseen by the eyes of man.

Gone is the builder's temple;  
Crumbled into the dust.  
Pillars and posts and arches  
Food for consuming rust;  
But the temple the teacher builded  
Shall endure while ages roll;  
For that beautiful, unseen temple  
Was a child's immortal soul.

- Author Unknown

Selected by Sister Sarah Musselman

## NEWS ITEMS

### MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The new telephone number of Elder Charles Leatherman is 419-337-6593. Please change in your directory of information.

### NOTICE

To all Bible Monitor Readers:

Please send ALL checks for the General Mission Board to the Secretary, ELDER HAYES REED. Much time is involved when checks are sent to me, then I must forward them to Bro. Reed in California, and then back to Bro. Carpenter, the Treasurer.

Thank you,  
Elder Harley Rush

## A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

As the old year fleets away and the new year begins, the Editor wants to thank all who have had a part in the work of the Bible Monitor this past year. It is your prayers, contributions, articles and encouragement that make the Bible Monitor successful. Your continued and increased efforts throughout the new year will make the Bible Monitor even more successful. We are depending upon you.

## SWALLOW FALLS, MARYLAND

The year of 1980 has been a very busy one, but on the other hand a very rewarding one for the Swallow Falls Congregation. On July 1 we broke ground for a small addition to the church, to make it possible to operate a Christian Day School. School started on schedule in the new addition with fifteen students and five dedicated parents who voluntarily give their time to instruct our little ones in the way of the Lord.

Our school was dedicated to the Lord on November 2, 1980 under the leadership of our Elder, Bro. David Ebling and our principal Sister Carolyn Mellott with the motto: Nature forms us, Sin deforms us, School informs us, but only Christ transforms us.

We are indeed indebted to Bro. John and Sis. Joyce Pepper, who came and labored so patiently with us and encouraged us all in our Christian walk of life. The reward of his labors brought three precious souls to the Lord. Hearts and eyes overflowed with joy when a local man ninety years of age realized the need to be baptized along with two other young souls. We trust you will remember these new ones in your prayers that they might ever be found faithful. Our appreciation goes out to all who came from far or near to be with us in our time of joy.

Just a reminder, we truly appreciate those of you who come from time to time to minister to us.

Sister Louise Sines, Cor.

## QUINTER, KANSAS

The Quinter Congregation met in special council, November 22, which resulted in the election of two ministers, Brethren Gordon Jamison and Leonard Wertz and one deacon, Bro. Roger Swihart.

The next day, they with their wives were installed into their offices. They responded without hesitation. It was a very impressive service which shall be remembered for a long time.

We trust this shall bring us into a closer relationship with each other and with the Lord.

Sister Ethel Whitmer, Cor.

## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JANUARY, 1981**

January 4 — The Ascension of Jesus - Acts 1:1-14.

January 11 — Mathias Chosen - Acts 1:15-26.

January 18 — The Coming of the Holy Spirit - Acts 2:1-13.

January 25 — Peter's Pentecostal Sermon - Acts 2:14-36.

### **QUESTIONS:**

- (1) How long was Jesus with His apostles after His resurrection? Acts 1:3.
- (2) What did Jesus say the apostles were to be for Him, after they had received the Holy Spirit? Acts 1:8.
- (3) What were the requirements of the one who was to take the place of Judas as an apostle? Acts 1:21-22.
- (4) What supernatural thing could those who were filled with the Holy Ghost do on the day of Pentecost? Acts 2:4.
- (5) What was the important thing that Peter proved to the people in his Pentecostal sermon? Acts 2:36.



## **SHE REACHED THEM**

An old woman was converted, and became anxious to do something for the Lord. What to do she could not tell, as she was old and poor. One day she thought of a plan. She got the children of the village to her home, and began, in her simple way, to sing with them, to talk to them, and then to pray. As the children were all missed from their homes, their mothers went to seek for them. They found them with the old woman, and were so struck with the little meeting that they remained to hear for themselves what she had to say about Jesus. While they listened their husbands came home, and finding wives and children absent, they went in search of them, and found them all safe. They were struck with this new state of things, and listened to the old woman's story. The result was a revival broke out, and one hundred and fifty were converted. "God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise."

## **WAS WAITING**

During a revival the preacher asked a young man the question, "Do you not want to be a Christian?" With tearful eyes and quivering lips the answer came: "Of course I do; I was waiting to see if anyone felt enough interested in me to ask me to seek salvation."

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

JANUARY 15, 1981

NO. 2

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## FOREVER SETTLED IN THE HEAVENS

Forever settled in the heav'ns,  
Thy Word, O Lord, shall firmly stand;  
Thy faithfulness shall never fail,  
The earth abides at Thy command.

Thy word and works unmoved remain,  
Thy ev'ry purpose to fulfill;  
All things are Thine and Thee obey,  
And all as servants wait Thy will.

I should have perished in my woe  
Had not I loved Thy law divine;  
That law I never can forget,  
O save me, Lord, for I am Thine.

Thy wicked would destroy my soul,  
But on Thy truth I muse with awe;  
Imperfect I have found all else,  
But boundless is Thy wondrous law.

## THE WRITTEN WORD

Those who have studied Luke's Gospel have noticed that at the beginning Luke makes a few remarks regarding his writing. Luke offers not only a reason for his own writing but also buttresses our faith in that which is written. As Luke reassures Theophilus of the validity of Christianity, he also reassures us. He gives us many insights into the life of Jesus. Our knowledge of the events surrounding the birth of Jesus would be poorer if we did not have the simple but elegant account given by Luke.

Luke was writing to a person having the name "Theophilus." It brings his message closer to us when we consider that the name, "Theophilus" means "lover of God." Considering the love that God has invested in our salvation and His love that He puts within us to share with others, we should all be "lovers of God." We should each take notice of Luke's message as a message to us as individuals.

Read Luke 1:1-4 again and look especially at some of the thoughts that he gives in these few verses. He draws our minds to some of the grand truths of Christianity, especially as related to the writing of the Bible. Luke was just one of several human authors of God's Book, but his words would be applicable to the others.

He speaks of "those things which are most surely believed among us." The Early Christians were not wishy-washy. They were not blown about by every wind of doctrine, philosophy or fad. They often staked their lives upon their faith and practices. Surely they would not die for some theory that they did not fully believe in. The beliefs of those people and of Christians of all ages were more than

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### THE BIBLE MONITOR

### JANUARY 15, 1981

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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some compromised, world-pleasing idea, that is open to change according to the latest prevailing philosophy. Luke uses the term, "most surely" to doubly emphasize the unyieldedness of their faith.

Although Luke did not participate in the scenes of his Gospel, he did have information from those who had been eyewitnesses of these events. He would have met and conversed with men like Peter and John. They had been intimately involved in these scenes and could tell Luke exactly what had happened or what words had been spoken. Luke did not have to depend upon his own inventive talent to produce this account.

Even more important than the eyewitnesses for Luke's success as a Gospel writer was the understanding that he had been given. The Holy Spirit provided Luke with this perfect understanding. The Bible is the Word of God, not just a literary production of talented men. It was through the Holy Spirit that God "breathed" upon these writers, causing them to write the Bible. Luke was an imperfect mortal but with the Spirit's direction he had perfect understanding in writing this book. This same Spirit also works within the hearts and minds of those who read Luke's account or any other book of the Bible today. By the Spirit being both author and interpreter of the Scriptures, the one who depends upon Him will not be led astray. The Spirit will never lead a person to do anything that is contrary to God's will as expressed in the Bible. Luke's perfect understanding was beyond his own knowledge and education.

Luke said that he wrote these things "in order." God has always had an order. He has decreed that His people conduct themselves decently and in order. His Book is also in order. He gives to us in its pages all that is necessary for our salvation and Christian service. He has an order for us to follow to render our service unto Him just as He had an order for Luke to present the truths of Christ's ministry.

Luke speaks of "the certainty." Something that is certain is not a fantasy or figment of someone's imagination. A "certainty" is a "sure thing." The sure things of God's Word are fixed and established. Men's opinions may fluctuate so what they are certain of one day, they doubt the next, but the Bible is certain in all ages and situations.

The certain things are those "wherein thou hast been instructed." These are the events and teachings surrounding the ministry of Jesus. Paul tells that "All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for reproof, for correction and for instruction in righteousness. That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." (II Tim. 3:16-17). The Scriptures to be of value to us as individuals must be

believed to be the Word of God. Then we need to allow that Word to instruct us. After we have been taught, we have a duty to obey that teaching.

Luke is a few words lies before us the source and the power of the Bible. It is more than the production of men's minds, it is the Word of God. As the Word of God it demands our faith and our obedience.

## A NEW YEAR PRAYER

What shall I ask for the coming year?  
What shall my watchword be?  
What would'st Thou do for me, dear Lord?  
What shall I do for Thee?

Lord, I would ask for a holy year.  
Spent in Thy perfect will:  
Help me to walk in Thy very steps —  
Help me to please Thee still

Lord, I would ask for a trustful year:  
Humble, and yet so high:  
Help me to sink at Thy blessed feet,  
And on Thy bosom lie.

Lord, I would ask for a year of faith:  
Give me Thy faith divine,  
Taking my full inheritance,  
Making Thy fulness mine.

Lord, I would ask for a year of love,  
Oh, let me love Thee best!  
Give me the love that faileth not  
Under the hardest test.

Lord, I would ask for a busy year,  
Filled up with service true;  
Doing with all Thy Spirit's might  
All that I find to do.

Lord, I would ask for a year of prayer —  
Teach me to walk with Thee:  
Breathe in my heart Thy Spirit's breath;  
Pray Thou Thy prayer in me.

Lord, I would ask for a dying world;  
Stretch forth Thy mighty hand;  
Scatter Thy Word — Thy power display  
This year in every land.

Lord, I would ask for a year of joy,  
Thy peace, Thy joy divine.  
Springing undimmed through all the days,  
Whether of shade or shine.

Lord, I would ask for a year of hope.  
Looking for Thee to come.  
And hastening on that year of years,  
That brings us Christ and Home.

- By A. B. Simpson

Selected by Sister Ruthanna Sauerwein

## ENERGY SHORTAGE

There is a true story told of a boat on the Mississippi River years ago. It had a small boiler and a large whistle. Everytime it blew its whistle, it started going backward. The boat couldn't go forward and blow its whistle at the same time. Christians who have lost power or have very little energy are just like that boat. It had a very limited energy capacity, not adequate to move a load and sound a warning at the same time.

You may make some noise and get people's attention with your whistle-blowing, but unless you are receiving energy from the Lord, it is all meaningless. As a child of God, you must function on His energy-flow of love and mercy. You cannot get anywhere on the fuel of resentment, unkindness or any negative outlook. You will not have any enthusiasm for life, no Christian vitality, no hope, no peace, nothing worthwhile and nothing to offer anyone else when you have an energy shortage.

"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." II Tim. 1:7. A fearful spirit is not an inspiring one. It shrinks back, rather than moving forward in faith. Such a spirit lacks the power of God — hence a serious energy shortage. God has given us a spirit of power, of love and of a sound mind, not a fearful one. Love helps release the power or energy within us so there is a continual, steady flow. It gives us a zest for living which would otherwise be missing.

"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost... he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance." (from John 14:26) "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." Acts 1:8a. The Holy Spirit is to lead and we are to follow (Rom. 8:14). When the Holy Spirit directs, power is also given to do as directed. We keep our energy level high by moving

when He says move and staying when He says stay. Being headstrong and going our own way only saps our energy, as well as making a mess of things.

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Phil. 4:13. Many, many things cannot be handled with human strength alone. We need help from above — Christ's strength — to cope with our problems and heartaches. Without Christ's energy, life becomes aimless, boring, maybe even impossible to face. Such an energy shortage leaves us drained, useless and hopeless, but with Christ, our entire outlook changes.

Negative emotions and attitudes sap our energy quickly. When we allow such things as resentment to build up within us, we cut off the energy-supply from the Lord. It directs our thoughts to ourselves, instead of to concern for others or thankfulness for what God has given. Any bad attitude or emotion steals our peace and joy, whether it be selfishness, resentment, a critical spirit, and so forth. We are to have the spirit of love which seeks good for others, and until we learn to function on that level, we will not have the energy and vitality we should have.

All of us, believer and unbeliever alike, have a lot of stress to cope with. It takes a lot of energy to do so. For you who believe in Christ, you have a special source of help. The promise of needed strength has already been given, so claim it. It is your privilege to ask also for joy in your heart, which joy can be present in spite of your problems. Jesus said, "Ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full." John 16:24. Jesus left us His peace (John 14:27), also and we need all three to keep our energy supply.

An unbeliever shows his state of mind and heart by his life. From II Tim. 3:1-5, we learn what happens when people function apart from the Lord's energy-flow. They are lovers of themselves, covetous, boastful, proud, ungrateful, unforgiving, without self-control, conceited. Their entire attention is turned on themselves, adding up to a very selfish life with God left out.

Power is the ability to perform effectively, energy is vigor or power in action. When the power of God motivates us, we can perform effectively. There will be a noticeable energy output in a way which pleases God. If you lack vitality, ask the Lord to show you why you have an energy shortage. It is always painful to face ourselves and our shortcomings, but once we do, it is a relief to get rid of the problem and get on with the Lord's work. When we are in harmony with Him, there are no energy shortages.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES INVOLVED IN SCRIPTURAL APPAREL

In all that the Bible teaches there are certain basic principles involved. Thus in the ordinance of the communion we have the broken body and shed blood of Jesus typified and also the "comm(union)" of believers. In water baptism, besides other things, we have "the answer of a good conscience toward God." So with other things taught in scripture. Let us see what we can find as we meditate upon what the Bible has to say with reference to Scripture apparel. Among other things, we notice the following principles involved:

1. Serviceableness. One of the first things that man did after the fall was to sew fig leaves together as a covering for the body. In this we observe a bit of human nature, practically useless, for appearance rather than for service. God saw to it a more serviceable covering was provided, a substantial covering, namely, the skins of animals.

2. Sex Distinction. "The woman shall not wear that which pertaineth unto a man; neither shall a man put on woman's garment: for all that do so are abomination unto the Lord thy God." Deut. 22:5. In our dispensation we recognize this as an expression of divine judgment on this point, rather than as a law (which is a part of the code that was nailed to the cross). There is protection and modesty in this provision. Present-day fashions have largely ignored this principle of sex distinction and taken up its very opposite, namely, sex appeal.

3. Modesty. Paul teaches women to adorn themselves in "modest apparel." Peter teaches the same thing when he emphasizes the beauty of "the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit." Display of the body is the very opposite of what Paul (I Tim. 2:9-10) and Peter (I Pet. 3:3-4) teach concerning proper and improper ornamentation. Paul's "not with" and Peter's "let it not be" emphasize both the positive and the negative side of proper ornamentation. It is the soul, not the animal, that should be beautiful. Modesty is an ornament of the soul that should be manifest in the apparel as well as in everything else pertaining to life and Godliness.

4. Nonconformity. On this point we notice two extremes. One would put this whole Gospel principle on dress, while the other holds that it does not pertain to dress at all. Both views are unscriptural. Paul and James give us a clear idea as to the all-inclusiveness of this Christian principle: the former when he says, "Be not conformed to this world", the latter when he uses the term,

"unspotted from the world." In other words, the church and the world being two separate and distinct bodies — the former under the leadership and headship of Christ and the latter under the leadership of "the god of this world" — is entirely out of the question for the followers of Jesus to adopt the standards of the Satan-led world. This includes dress as well as everything else where the standards of this world are different from or contrary to the standards of the Gospel. It is as inconsistent for the people of God to adopt or pattern after the fashions of the world as it is for the soldiers of any country to adopt the uniform of some enemy country. There is not a single teaching of God's Word on the subject of dress that is not violated by the fashions of this world.

5. Simplicity. For a pen-picture of the opposite of simplicity in dress, read Isa. 3:16-24, and let it be remembered that the wrath of God was pronounced against the practice. New Testament writers speak against "costly array," against "superfluities," against "long robes" and pompous display of any kind. Such things do not belong to the true followers of the meek and lowly Jesus. We spoke of "long robes," while they are not altogether extinct, the prevailing styles have gone to the opposite extreme of indecent exposure of the body, in whole or in part.

One of the things to be noted in "modest apparel" and Gospel simplicity is that it is neat as well as serviceable and Scriptural. Sometimes we hear people defending Gospel teaching on modest apparel in the apologetic way: "I believe in plainness, but I don't believe in slovenliness." Why put it in this fashion? Do they not know that "modest apparel" and Gospel simplicity in dress are the embodiment of neatness? The Christian woman with hair parted and combed in a plain simple style, with breast and arms and lower limbs decently covered, without ruffles, or puffs or flounces of any kind is not only dressed in harmony with Scripture but is also a model of neatness as compared with the fashionable dressed female. If neatness or tidiness were the only thing under consideration, it would still be the proper thing for women to "adorn themselves in modest apparel."

Speaking of Christian apparel, let us not get the idea that the Bible teaching is intended only for women. With the exception of a few Scriptures where women are especially mentioned, the Bible teaching on simplicity, modesty and non-conformity is as applicable to men as to women. Recognizing gay and extravagant clothing as a woman's weakness, why should men insist on being effeminate enough to pattern after them? If men, as they claim, are the stronger sex, why not manifest this superior strength by setting an example of complete separation from the world, as the Bible

teaches — in dress as well as in all other things where the standards of this world are different from and in opposition to the standards of the Gospel?

When a person is "clothed with humility" in heart it is usually apparent in the outward appearance.

Selected from 1944 Bible Monitor  
by Brother Howard Surbey

## **THE CHILDREN'S PAGE**

### **"NEVER MAN SPAKE LIKE THIS MAN"**

John 7:11-47

Wouldn't you have liked to live when Jesus was here? Jesus preached to the people and healed them of their diseases. He never did anyone any harm. He was tender, compassionate, kind and loving. Never was there a man like Jesus. He was the Son of God but He came to this earth to visit mankind, to teach them how to live. He came to die on the cross to pay for the sins of the whole world. Anyone can come to Jesus and be saved. Jesus promises, those who will live for Him, everlasting life. After this life is over Jesus wants those, who choose to serve Him, to have a home where all is joy, and peace, and love.

Jesus was getting too popular with the common people to suit the leaders of the Jews. Why wouldn't the people like Him, when He had helped them so much? What had the Jewish leaders ever done to help the poor? They only made things hard for them by demanding more taxes and making laws that were next to impossible to obey. The Jews were trying to arrest Jesus and were planning many ways that they might take Him. The leaders had spoken against Jesus and the people were confused. Some said, "He is a good man" and others, "Nay, but He deceives the people."

Jesus was not an educated man as far as going to school was concerned, but when He taught the people the educated class of Jews said of Him, "How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?" Of course we know that Jesus knew all things. He had created the world and all that we see around us. He knew more than all the people in the world put together, but the Jews couldn't understand.

When Jesus spoke in the Temple, some said, "Is not this He, whom they seek to kill. Do the rulers know that this is the very Christ?" Others said, "We know this man whence He is; but when Christ comes, no man will know from where He is."

Jesus answered them, "You both know me and you know from where I am: And I am not come of myself, but He that sent me is true, whom you know not." Jesus was speaking of His Heavenly Father and this provoked the Jews and they tried to take Him but no man laid hands on Him because the time for them to do this was not yet come. Many of the people believed and said, "When Christ comes, will He do more miracles than those which this man has done?"

The Pharisees heard what the people said and decided that something must be done. They sent officers to arrest Jesus. When the officers came to where Jesus was speaking in the Temple, they stopped and listened. Jesus said, "If any many thirst let him come unto me and drink." And He told them of the Holy Spirit that God would give unto them.

The officers were so impressed that they would not arrest Jesus but returned to the ones who sent them. Then the Pharisees and chief priests said, "Why haven't you brought Him?" The officers answered, "Never man spake like this man."

No, no one ever did. Jesus had the words of eternal life. He was teaching the people about God and what He would do for them if they would only believe on His Son, whom He had sent. Jesus gives us the same opportunity today. He will give you eternal life if you will choose Him as your Saviour.

Brother Rudy Cover

## CAREST THOU NOT?

Jesus and His disciples were aboard a ship, "... and there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. And he (Jesus) was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: And they awake him and say unto him, Master carest thou not that we perish? And he arose and rebuked the wind and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased and there was a great calm. And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? How is it that ye have no faith?"

Jesus cared then and He cares still; He does not change. Place the cares of life into His hands. If He feeds the small sparrow, would He neglect you?

Paul, who experienced many trials wrote "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Phillipians 4:13. Christ can strengthen us with His power, and His presence in our life, communicated by way of prayer. He sees our trials as well as our triumphs. He promises that He will not allow us to be tempted more

than we are able to stand but will provide a way of escape. II Cor. 10:13. He is with us always, we need not feel alone and afraid. With faith, we turn doubts and fears into divine assurance and peace.

"The righteous cry and the Lord heareth and delivereth them out of all their troubles. The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous but the Lord delivereth him out of them all." Psalms 34:17-19. The Bible gives many accounts of persons the Lord has intervened for and saved out of their peril. I can't remember all the many times the Lord has helped me. His help comes in many ways: inner strength, comfort, a sweet peace, the love of friends who say just the right thing to make your day beautiful. Remember to make God your number one support, since He is eternal, knows everything, and loves most. "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." I Peter 5:7.

What is our present woe compared with the pleasantness of Heaven? Isn't the Christian life worthwhile? Psalms 126:5-6, "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weeping bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing bringing his sheaves with him." Be strong and continue to live for Him. "They that wait upon the Lord shall mount up with wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, and they shall walk and not faint." Isaiah 40:31.

YES, He cares for you and me, today, tomorrow, and always.

Sister Beverly Frost

## STUDY THE BIBLE

If the Church means anything to a Christian, it is because he has been studying the Word of God. Everyone of us should give some time every day to study and prayer. Each of us needs help from the Father Above, so we must go to Him and ask for that daily help which can only come from Him. Some say they have so much to do. When I was a child my parents always found time to read the Bible and have the family altar. Do we, as parents, take time to kneel with our family before God or are we too busy? Maybe we sometimes wonder why our children are out in the world and don't attend Church. Are we in some way responsible? Have we brought them up the way the Lord would have us? If we make a resolution and hold faithful to it, it could be a turning point in many of our lives.

I think every one who studies the Word of God enjoys the Sunday School hour each Sunday. I believe one who does this will never go astray, for he or she have become aware of the awful

things that will happen to their life hereafter and will go forth spending this life in His service. You cannot blame the Church or any of its members if you go astray, because you are the only one who can blot your name out of the Book of Life. So when you read this, will you please stop and see where you stand before God. Take His precious Word and study it and come back before it is too late. If you ask the dear Lord to show you the way back, I am sure if you come earnestly seeking help, He will receive you, for He died for every one, but we must become a new creature and live for Him if we expect a Home in Heaven.

Some say studying God's Word is not easy. I find if I take a subject every week and look up the references it becomes very interesting. As the day goes by, you can meditate as you go about your many different duties. When the time comes for you to open your Bible, you have been able to see it more clearly. It will develop a better character in you, and enrich your life. Let us not let anything keep us from studying the Word. In Psalms 1:2 it says we are to meditate on the Word of God, day and night. In Jeremiah we read, "Thy words were found and I did eat them." We must chew our own spiritual food. I have read where Mr. Moody once spent several days in the study of the subject of "Grace." When he had finished he was so full of that subject he wanted others to share it too, so he ran out into the street and the first man he came to he asked, "Do you know anything about 'Grace'?" The man answered "Grace who?" Then Moody said, "The Grace of God that bringeth salvation" and then poured out upon this man the rich treasures he had dug out of the Word of God.

The subject of "Heaven" is very interesting if you take a text book and look up all the references on Heaven. After one reads and studies this subject and knows alot about Heaven, I am sure none of us would ever want to miss that beautiful place the Lord has prepared. Now, we can realize how beautiful Heaven must be. If you are still out in the world and have studied this subject, I am sure you won't want to miss that Home. So dear one now is the time to prepare for it, not tomorrow, for it may not come, but today. We have so many wonderful subjects we can study. Try to study the ones that will help to enrich your life and will help you live a pure life, as a born again child of God.

If you plan to study about Prayer make a list of questions on the subject. 1. Who can pray, so God will hear? 2. Whom to pray for? 3. When to pray? 4. Hindrances to prayer. 5. Results of prayer. Make yourself a list that you have thought up and it will be more interesting. Always read God's Word each day. Another way to study the Bible is look up the different characters in a certain

chapter and see what you can find out about each one.

There never has been a more wonderful book than the Bible, because it is the Word of God and as we study it we must realize we are in the presence of God and through His Word He speaks to us. In Psalms it says "Open my eyes that I may behold wonderful things out of thy law." By storing up the Word of God in our minds daily, we won't have any room for Satan or any false doctrine to enter.

Many of the Spirit-filled preachers today will use a text whereby a sinner can find the road that leads to Jesus. It won't be long till we will hear the last words, "It is finished." Your life or mine, and what has been written can not change as God has a record. No year, month, hour or day can change it. We would all like to recall some things we have done, so we could change it but all regrets will be futile. We will be stripped of every thing but character. The only word that will matter is God's Word. How happy each of us will be if out of the shadowy evening of life, we hear Him speaking softly "WELL DONE."

Remember the Bible is a book that stands alone. There never was and never will be another one like this book. There is only one sun to enlighten the world naturally, so there is only one book, the Bible, to enlighten the world spiritually. May it become to each of us our counsel, the guide to show us the way, the inspiration of our thoughts and our support and comfort in this life, and a Home above.

Sister E. M. Alltus

## WHY THEY STAY HOME

Some stay at home because it's cold;  
And some because it's hot;  
And some because they're getting old,  
And some because they're not.

Some stay at home to entertain,  
And some to cook the dinner;  
And some because they're good enough,  
And some because they're sinners.

Some stay at home because their clothes  
Are looking old and shabby;  
And some because their special type  
Of piety is "flabby."

Some stay at home because they have  
A farm and lots of stock.

And therefore cannot spare the time  
To gather with God's flock.

And some declare they don't enjoy  
The singing of the hour  
And others 'cause their fellow saints  
Arouse their wrathful ire.

Some stay away because they've long  
In single harness tarried;  
And some because, as they protest,  
They've settled down and married.

Alas! Alas! Excuses grow  
To drive our thoughts from God,  
And turn us from the House of Prayer,  
The place our Saviour trod.

- Author Unknown

Selected by Sister Sarah Musselman

## **PUT OUT THE OLD BLACK COW**

One time, in a certain community, a young man came to preach. Folks came to the meetings and began to get saved. As time went by, the work grew rapidly for the Lord richly blessed the young man's work in that place. People began to look upon him as their spiritual father.

But the day came when he was called away. After he was gone for some time, the people began to jangle, and at the prayer meeting, instead of praying, they quarreled, and at the Bible meeting they gossiped. Finally one day someone said, "We will write to the good preacher who started this work and see if he will come back." So they wrote him a nice, long letter and sent it away. In about two weeks, the answer came. The man who had written to the pastor sat down and read and re-read it, for this is what it said: "Put out the old black cow, and put up the fence."

At the next meeting they asked of the good brother, "Did you get an answer to that letter?"

When he said "Yes," they said, "Well, go ahead and read it to us." He said, "No, I can't read it to you." They said, "Is it from the preacher?" He said, "Yes." "Well," they said, "you must read it to us; we want to know what he wrote." Finally they persuaded him to read it to them: "Put out the old black cow, and put up the fence."

They began to ask, "What does he mean?"

Some of them said, "He thinks I am that old black cow and he

means to rub it in on me; that's what he is after."

They argued around about it for about an hour, and finally an old brother got up and said, "Well, I believe he was right at that; the old black cow represents the Devil, and he meant that we should put out the devil and things would be all right." And before they left they had a real revival meeting, and Brother Brown shook hands with Brother Jones, and said, "Forgive me for all I have said about you," and all the rest were asking each other to forgive them, and so they got their differences straightened out that way.

Now, the real story back of it is this: That preacher who moved away had a farm on which a tenant lived. The same day he got a letter from Brother Brown requesting him to come back again, he also got a letter from his tenant complaining about the old black cow that kept getting out and he could not keep her anywhere.

The preacher wrote a twelve page letter to Brother Brown saying that after all maybe things were not so bad, and perhaps this brother was not so bad, and the other one was not so bad, and he tried to smooth everything all over in a nice way.

He then wrote to his tenant about the old cow, but he got the letters mixed up and put them in the wrong envelope. Now, if those brethren had gotten the soothing syrup letter which was intended for them, it might have made matters worse than they were, but instead they got something very concrete and to the point, and it did the work.

Selected from The Flame  
by Sister Ruth Snyder

## OBITUARY

### ALVIN SILKNITTER

Bro. Alvin Silknitter was born in Comet, Ohio, May 16, 1899 and passed away February 29, 1980 at the age of 80 years, 9 months and 13 days. He was married to Sarah Nicette Rodenbaugh. To this union were born Earl A. and Pauline Brainard of North Canton, Ohio. Four grand children and eight great-grandchildren, one brother, Paul and two sisters, Ida Greenho and Ethel Hartman survive.

Brethren William Carpenter and Edward Johnson conducted the services. Interment at Greensburg Cemetery.

## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR FEBRUARY, 1981

### DEATH

Memory Verse: Rom. 5:17

For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.

Sun. 1 - Acts 26:1-18

Mon. 2 - Acts 26:19-32

Tues. 3 - Acts 28:1-16

Wed. 4 - Acts 28:17-31

Thur. 5 - Rom. 1:1-16

Fri. 6 - Rom. 1:17-32

Sat. 7 - Rom. 4:1-25

Memory Verse: Rom. 6:4

Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Sun. 8 - Rom. 5:1-21

Mon. 9 - Rom. 6:1-23

Tues. 10 - Rom. 7:1-25

Wed. 11 - Rom. 8:1-19

Thur. 12 - Rom. 8:20-39

Fri. 13 - Rom. 10:1-21

Sat. 14 - Rom. 11:1-18

Memory Verse: Rom. 6:23

For the wages of sin is death: but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sun. 15 - Rom. 11:19-36

Mon. 16 - Rom. 14:1-23

Tues. 17 - I Cor. 3:1-23

Wed. 18 - I Cor. 4:1-21

Thur. 19 - I Cor. 11:17-34

Fri. 20 - I Cor. 15:1-28

Sat. 21 - I Cor. 15:29-58

Memory Verse: Rom. 14:9

For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living.

Sun. 22 - II Cor. 1:1-24

Mon. 23 - II Cor. 2:1-17

Tues. 24 - II Cor. 3:1-18

Wed. 25 - II Cor. 4:1-18

Thur. 26 - II Cor. 5:1-21

Fri. 27 - II Cor. 7:1-16

Sat. 28 - Gal. 1:1-24

Memory Verse: I Cor. 11:26

For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

I Cor. 15:55-57

O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

II Cor. 5:14 & 15

For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.

II Cor. 7:10

For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

Paul R. Myers  
Box 117  
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(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

FEBRUARY 1, 1981

NO. 3

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## I MET MY MASTER

I had walked life's pathway with easy tread,  
Had followed where comfort and pleasure led;  
And then it changed in a quiet place,  
I met my Master face to face.

I had built my castles and built them high,  
With their towers that pierced the blue of the sky  
I had sworn to rule with an iron mace,  
When I met my Master face to face.

I met Him and knew Him and blushed to see  
That His eyes, full of sorrow, were fixed on me  
And I faltered and fell at His feet that day  
While my castles melted and vanished away.

Melted and vanished, but in their place  
I saw naught else but my Master's face.  
And I cried; O, make me meet  
To follow the marks of Thy pierced feet!

My thought is now for the souls of men,  
I've lost my life to find it again.  
E'er since alone in that holy place,  
I met my Master, face to face.

- Unknown

## REGRET

"I'm sorry." "If only I had known." "Why did I do that?" "Hindsight is better than foresight." These are only a few of the many statements we make showing regret.

After the deed is done or the word is spoken we regret it. We become involved with many activities, some of little significance, others of lifechanging significance, and before we consider the right course we make the wrong decision. Then as the consequences unfold we come to regret that decision. We wish then we had made a different decision but it is too late. Although we regret the things we do, there also are times when we regret what we did not do. We miss many opportunities. While our regret may be strongest over what was done amiss, still our regret is very real over what we failed to do.

Many come to the close of life with a heavy load of regret for the activities they have engaged in. The temptations that have been yielded to, the words spoken without full knowledge have produced many regrets and unpleasant memories. Many have spurned opportunities to get right with God at various times in their lives. As life draws towards its close their regret may become very depressing. Since the Spirit of God does not always strive with men, they may come to the regrettable and lamentable realization that they have missed the greatest opportunity of their lives. There may be financial opportunities which are missed but no matter how serious the monetary loss, it can never compare in seriousness with the missed opportunity for their soul's salvation.

Regret is pictured in the Bible in the lives of characters who had splendid opportunities but failed to use them. Esau was in line, as

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****FEBRUARY 1, 1981**

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

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the firstborn, to receive the best of his father's blessings, but he despised his birthright by selling it to Jacob for a mess of pottage. He was more interested in the physical needs of his life than the Spiritual. It was later when he realized his error. Although he regretted it he would not repent. He blamed Jacob and others, rather than himself. He regretted that he had lost out but failed to see his own part in his downfall.

Judas Iscariot was much like Esau. By the kiss of friendship, he betrayed Jesus to the soldiers. Whatever his motives had been in accepting the thirty pieces of silver, there came the time when he realized he had betrayed the innocent. He regretted what he had done. He even returned the money he had so deceitfully earned which must have been hard for a man who was an embezzler. Despite his regret, he seemingly could not repent. Perhaps he did not realize the seriousness of his actions or again he may have blamed others rather than himself. Repentance never came. A very pointed contrast is drawn between Judas and Peter. They both sinned. But Peter wept bitter tears of repentance. Peter's regret led to repentance and to leadership in the Early Church. Judas' regret led to depression and to suicide.

Judas and Esau failed to profit by their regret. Regret can be helpful if it leads to repentance and a better life. Judas and Esau were sorry for themselves that what promised to bring good and riches turned out so differently. Their regret did not cause them to search their own hearts and lives to find the root of their failure. Rather than using regret to better themselves, they were driven by it into even more desperate sin.

There are many regrets during a lifetime. It matters little if we regret because we have done amiss or because we failed to do. Regretting will not reform us unless that sorrow causes us to look at ourselves and find there the reasons for our regrets.

Regret is not the possession only of the lost. Christians also regret. As the Christian becomes aware of his duties, his priorities and his influence for good or ill, he is also aware of his failures. He has many regrets, which can be useful as building blocks of his spiritual life. As long as the Christian realizes that he makes mistakes and his failures, he can strive harder to do better. He can depend more upon the Lord as he realizes his fallibility.

You have many regrets. But are you using them to overcome the regrettable deeds of the past? Do not come to the close of life regretting that you did not avail yourself of the greatest gift of all — Eternal life through Jesus Christ.

## HOW READEST THOU?

It is one thing to read the Bible through,  
Another thing to read to learn and do.  
Some read it as their duty once a week,  
But no instructions from the Bible seek;  
Some read to bring themselves into repute  
By showing others how they can dispute;  
While others read because their neighbors do.  
To see how long 'twill take to read it through.  
Some read it for the wonders that are there,  
How David killed a lion and a bear;  
While others read it with uncommon care,  
Hoping to find some contradictions there.  
One reads with father's specs upon his head,  
And sees the thing just as his father said.  
Some read to prove a preadopted creed;  
Hence understand but little that they read,  
For every passage in the book they bend  
To make it suit that all-important end.  
Some people read as I have often thought,  
To teach the Bible instead of being taught;  
And some there are who read it out of spite,  
I fear there are but few who read it right.  
So many people in these latter days  
Have read the Bible in so many ways  
That few can tell which system is the best,  
For every party contradicts the rest.  
But read it prayerfully and you will see,  
Although men contradict, God's Words agree;  
For what the early Bible prophets wrote,  
We find that Christ and His apostles quote.  
So trust no creed, that trembles to recall;  
What has been penned by one and verified by all.

Selected from Flashlight  
by Sister Ruth Drake

## MARRIAGE

BECK-MILLER

Sis. Judy E. Beck, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Frank Beck of R. 1, Bernville, Pennsylvania and Bro. Kenton D. Miller, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Miller of R. 1, Glen Rock, Pennsylvania were married October 25, 1980 at the Brethren Camp Swatara by Elder Eugene Kauffman. Their new address is: Box 331, R. 2, Seven Valleys, Pennsylvania 17360.

## NEWS ITEMS

### GENERAL CONFERENCE

The Lord willing, General Conference will be held June 5-10, 1981, at the Maranatha Bible Camp Grounds, located thirteen miles east of North Platte, Nebraska on Interstate 80.

Send your reservations to Bro. Jerry Moss, R. 1, Dallas Center, Iowa 50063 or Bro. Carl E. Reed, 4716 - 139th Street, Grandview, Missouri 64030.

More information will be given at a later date.

### REGISTRATION

All men born in 1962 should register at your local Post Office within thirty days of your birthday. If any born in 1960 or 1961 did not register, it is possible that your Post Office will still accept your registration and thus you will avoid prosecution.

Howard J. Surbey  
Executive Secretary Civilian  
Service Board

## TOO BUSY TO DIE

A wealthy English manufacturer, after a busy day, once said to his confidential clerk, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die; not that I have any thought of dying for some years to come. For my part, I am so engaged in business that I could not find time to die." Uttering these words, he passed into another room, and fell down a corpse.

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## NOTICE CONCERNING SUBSCRIPTIONS

Newlywed couples may receive a year's subscription free if a request is forwarded to the editor with their name and full address.

To those who anticipate moving — please report a change of address promptly to the editor to prevent the papers being miscarried.

It will also be appreciated if those who send in subscriptions will give the complete addresses and indicate whether they are new or renewal subscriptions.

It will be of help to the editor if subscriptions are always sent in the same name.

Is your subscription renewed?

— Editor

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## EDITORIAL POLICY

That it be the policy of the Bible Monitor to exclude controversial material and material opposing, questioning or reflecting on decisions or positions of the Church as determined by the General Conference or derogatory thereto. Also all other material not of proper standard or spiritual value for a church paper.

That supervision over the matter to be published in the Bible Monitor be exercised by the Publication Board.

## PRINTED MATERIAL

The following Dunkard Brethren publications are available to anyone, from the Boards listed:

### GENERAL MISSION BOARD

The following tracts are free:

Why Triune Baptism  
Plain Dressing  
Which is the Right Church?  
The Service of Feet Washing as a Religious Rite  
What Shall I do with the Commandments of Jesus?  
Daily Reminder  
The Lord's Supper  
The Doctrine of the Prayer Veil  
The Brethren's Card  
Do You Want Salvation?

### PUBLICATION BOARD

Bible Monitor (semi-monthly)  
\$1.00 per year in advance.  
Brethren Hymnal (heavy back)  
\$5.50 ea. \$62.50 doz.  
Church Manual \$ .30  
The Bible Outline \$ .45; \$5.10 doz.  
The Old Testament History  
\$ .55; \$6.00 doz.  
The New Testament History  
\$ .60; \$6.50 doz.  
No charge for the following:  
Polity Booklet  
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Minutes of General Conference in One Volume  
\$4.25 ea. plus \$ .35 postage each.

## SUGGESTIONS TO CONTRIBUTORS

We are submitting several suggestions as a help to contributors in preparing material for the Bible Monitor. These suggestions will also make the work easier for both the editor and the printer.

1. Become familiar with the Editorial Policy and do not use subjects or statements which conflict with this plan of the Bible Monitor.

2. Place your name and address at the close of the article. We deem it more appropriate to sign as Brother or Sister.

3. Do not make sentences too long. A number of short sentences are better than a long involved sentence which is difficult to punctuate, and in which the real meaning of the writer's thought may be lost.

4. It will be appreciated if you gather a particular thought or thoughts and their proving Scripture quotations, into paragraphs and set these apart from the rest of the article, by setting in the first line of each paragraph about the space of three letters.

5. Do not crowd your words or punctuation marks close together. Do not use slang or abbreviated words as - "thot" for thought, "2" for two, "&" for and, etc.

6. Write or typewrite on one side of the paper only. Double spacing of lines is much preferred. Do not make the lines the full width of the sheet, leave at least one inch margin on each side of the sheet.

7. Use direct quotations for the Scripture references, please copy the wording and the punctuation just as it appears in the King James Version of the Bible. Given thus book, chapter and verse, "Jesus wept" John 11:35

8. Frequent mistakes we find: beleive for believe, recieve for receive, judgement for judgment, ore for or, & for and.

9. In submitting selected material, give the name of the author and the publication in which it appeared, if known, and add "selected by" and your name.

10. To be certain that an item is in a certain issue, your Editor should have this item at least 30 days prior to the date of the issue.

11. The Publication Board has decided that News Items should contain material of general interest to the Brotherhood. Therefore items of only local interest should not be included in News Items, such as Local Sunday School officers, District meeting delegates, minor local church property improvements and items "In Memoriam."

12. Read these and then write.

## FIXED COMMUNION DATES

Third Sat. March - Quinter, Kansas  
 First Sat. April - Dallas Center, Iowa  
 Fourth Sat. April - Pleasant Home, Ca.  
 Last Sat. April - Grandview, Missouri  
 Last Sun. April - Bethel, Pa.  
 First Sun. May - Waynesboro, Pa.  
 Third Sat. May - Dayton, Virginia  
 Third Sat. May - West Fulton, Ohio  
 Sat. before Third Sun. May - Lititz, Pa.  
 Fourth Sun. May - Shrewsbury, Pa.  
 Sat. before First Sun. Aug. - Broadwater Chapel, Maryland  
 Sat. before Fourth Sun. Aug. - Shallow Falls, Maryland  
 Labor Day Weekend - South Fulton, Ill.  
 Last Sun. Sept. - Mountindale, Md.  
 First Sun. Oct. - Walnut Grove, Md.  
 Second Sun. Oct. - Waynesboro, Pa.  
 Third Sat. Oct. - Dayton, Virginia  
 Sat. before Third Sun. Oct. - Lititz, Pa.  
 Fourth Sat. Oct. - Englewood, Ohio  
 Last Sun. Oct. - Bethel, Pa.  
 First Sat. Nov. - Newberg, Oregon  
 First Sun. Nov. - Shrewsbury, Pa.  
 Second Sat. Nov. - Pleasant Home, Ca.

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## GOSSIP, BOTH VERBAL AND BY MAIL

A. Elders, other officials and all others are admonished that being busybodies in other men's matters, is contrary to the Scripture and it should not be indulged in, as it causes complaint and interference with the spiritual life and work of those concerned. This applies especially where there may be trouble in the church, both to local members and those elsewhere, talking and writing about such matters.

B. When advice is sought of an official in any church matter he (the official) should be exceedingly careful in giving advice, so as not to interfere in any way with proper care of difficulties, by officials whose business they are. Elders and all others should, in seeking advice, begin at home when at all possible and be careful to proceed regularly and in brotherly love.

C. In correspondence, care should be exercised not to make statements that may be construed as derogatory to any member. If such things are done, full responsibility must be understood as being assumed by the writer.

D. Caucusing, that is, the taking over and planning by groups, what to do or how to move in any particular matter is unprofitable, causative of distress and trouble and should not be indulged in by officials or anyone else.

E. Talking or circulating of what was done in council, either to members who were not present or to outsiders, is irregular and unChristian and should not be indulged in.

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## LOCATION OF CHURCH HOUSES

### BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

Frystown House, located in Frystown, in northwestern Berks Co., one mile south of Route 78 and one mile west of Route 501.

Milbach House, located halfway between Kleinfeltersville and Newmans-town, in Lebanon Co. or halfway between Schafferstown and Womeisdorf, Pennsylvania.

### BROADWATER CHAPEL, MD.

From Cumberland, Maryland, travel west on National Freeway #48, 20 miles to Lower New Germany Road Exit. Turn left or south under freeway three-tenths mile, turn right on Lower New Germany Road 3.8 miles, left on Westernport Road 3.8 miles, right on Savage Road 3.9 miles to church on left.

From Morgantown, W. Va. area, travel east on National Freeway #48 to Lower New Germany Road Exit. Turn right three-tenths mile, turn right on Lower New Germany Road and follow above directions.

Traveling east or west on U.S. Route #50 take U.S. Rt. #220 north, take Maryland Rt. #135 at McCoole (just north of Keyser, W. Va.) seven miles to Bloomington, Maryland. Turn right on Savage River Road, 12½ miles to church on right.

### CLEARVILLE, PA.

Wards Church, located 14 miles southwest of Everett, Pa., all improved roads. From Everett take Rt. 26 to Clearville, Pa. At Clearville straight ahead South, leaving Rt. 26, which turns right, one and one-half miles, then turn right at fork. Ward's Church is five miles on the left.

### DALLAS CENTER, IOWA

Dallas Center is located on Rt. 44, twenty-four miles northwest of Des Moines. Turn south off of Rt. 44 on to Percival Ave. (first street west of R.R. tracks); the church is located 3 blocks south on the southeast corner of Percival and Ash Streets.

### DAYTON, VIRGINIA

Turn west from Interstate 81 at Harrisonburg Exit #63. Go to second stop light, Rt. 42, turn left to Dayton, (3 miles) right on Rt. 257, two blocks.

### ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

Twelve miles north of Dayton, Rt. 440 and Rt. 48 cross at the center of Englewood. Church house is located on the right of Rt. 48, one block north of this junction.

### GOSHEN, INDIANA

Located on Green Road, one block north of County No. 130. Take U.S. 33 or Indiana #15 to Goshen, turn west at Police booth. Four blocks beyond bridge, turn right on North Indiana Ave., one block turn left on W. Clinton St. One mile to Green Rd., right one block and church is located on east side of road.

### GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Grandview Church is located south of Grandview. Take the west access road of 71 Highway 1½ miles south to 139th St., turn west, go to the second street and turn south one block.

### LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

Coming from the South on Route 501, turn right at the fourth stoplight in Lititz, when coming from the North turn left at the first stoplight, which is East Lincoln St. Go to first crossroad, turn right, go to second crossroad, turn right to brick church on the right.

### MECHANICSBURG, PA.

### CUMBERLAND CO.

Located between Routes 15 and 11. The town is bisected by Rt. 114 into East and West, and by Rt. 641 into North and South. The church is located on West Keller St., or corner of Keller and Washington St., four blocks west of Market St. or Route 114. Leaving the Pennsylvania Turnpike at the Carlisle interchange, Rt. 11 will lead east to Rt. 114. Leaving the Turnpike at Gettysburg interchange, Rt. 16 will lead west to Rt. 114.

### McCLAVE, COLORADO

The Cloverleaf church is located one mile north of U.S. Highway #50, four miles west of McClave junction, or two miles east of Hasty, Colo., on U.S. #50 and then north one mile.

### MOUNTAINDALE, MD.

Seven miles north of Frederick, in the little town of Mountaindale, Md., from east go through town to west on road from Lewistown to Yellow Springs, two miles from Lewistown

and three miles from Yellow Springs. If traveling U.S. 15, this road crosses #15, half mile west of Lewistown and six miles south of Thurmont.

#### PLEASANT HOME, CA.

The Pleasant Home Church is located at 3960 Sharon Ave., Modesto, California. The Church's telephone number is 209-524-8634.

Directions: From the South on Highway 99 take the Briggsmore Exit to the right and stay on Briggsmore Avenue to Claus Road (approximately six miles), turn left on Claus, one fourth mile to Sharon Avenue, left on Sharon Avenue. Church is on the left. Coming from the North on Highway 99 take the Briggsmore Exit, turn left and stay on Briggsmore and follow above directions.

#### PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

Located in Williams County, four miles west of West Unity, forty rods north of Rt. 20 alternate. Two miles east of junction of Ohio Route 15 and U.S. Route 20 alternate.

#### PLEVNA, INDIANA

Route 18 passes east and west through Converse. In Converse, turn south at stoplight and go three miles. Turn right on blacktop road and go five miles west to Plevna. Or go west of Converse on Rt. 18 for five miles, turn left and go three miles south. The Church is on west side of street near the square of Plevna.

#### NEWBERG, OREGON

Highway 99W enters Newberg in east-west direction. Those entering from the east on First St., go to third stoplight, turn right on North Main. Go four blocks to the church at corner of N. Main and Franklin Sts. Entering from the west, turn left at first stop light onto N. Main and go four blocks to the corner of Main and Franklin Sts.

#### ORION, OHIO

Located in northeastern Ohio, on Orion Road, one fourth mile west of State Rt. 8 at a point six miles north of Canton or one and one-half miles

north of North Canton and 17 miles south of Akron.

#### QUINTER, KANSAS

Located at the corner of Eighth Street and Main Street.

#### S. FULTON, ILLINOIS

Astoria, Ill., is located on Rt. 24, coming from east or west, turn south at the bank corner marked by the big clock. Two miles south and on the right at top of hill.

#### WAYNESBORO, PA.

Church is located in west side of town, on corner of Ridge and Third Streets. Turn south of Route 16 on Fairview Ave., go two blocks and turn left on Third Street, church house is one block.

#### SHREWSBURY, PA.

Fourteen miles south of York on Rt. 111, at the north end of the town of Shrewsbury.

#### SHALLOW FALLS, MD.

Traveling U.S. Rt. 50, turn north at Red house, half way between Clarksburg and Winchester, follow Rt. 219 to Oakland, there turn left on county road 20. The church is on Rt. 20, about nine miles north of Oakland. Traveling U.S. Rt. 40, turn south onto Rt. 219, at Keyser Ridge, follow Rt. 219 about four miles past Deep Great Lake, turn right on county road 20 at a store. The church is one and one-half miles Swallow Falls Park.

#### WALNUT GROVE, MD.

About midway between Frederick, Md. and Hanover, Pa. One-fourth mile east of Rt. 194, at an intersection three miles north of Taneytown, Md.

#### W. FULTON, OHIO

Near Wauseon, Ohio, located on U.S. Rt. 20 alternate, three and one-half miles west of junction of Ohio Rt. 108 and U.S. Rt. 20 alternate.

#### WINTERHAVEN, CA.

Located in Cherry Valley. Go north of Beaumont on Beaumont Ave., go right on Brookside (marked with a Highland Springs sign) to Jonathan, left to Lincoln and right to the church.

## LEFT IT ALL

At a business meeting of wealthy railroad officials in New York, the announcement was made that one of their associates had suddenly died. "How much did he leave?" was asked. "He left it all," was answered.

## MISSIONS

**CLEARVILLE, PA.** - In South Central Pennsylvania, about half-way between Everett on Rt. 30 and Piney Grove on Rt. 40. About six miles south of Clearville, Pa., along hard road a little east of Rt. 26. Services second, fourth and fifth Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

### **TORREON NAVAJO MISSION**

Located southwest of Cuba, New Mexico, 23 miles. Turn on State Highway 197 in Cuba. Follow Rt. 197 for

19 miles when you will take an unpaved road to the left. A mission sign marks this junction. Proceed 3 miles to the mission. Present personnel includes David and Mildred Skiles and family; Daniel and Esther Roedel; Sarah Wilson; Mary Alice Skiles; Carolyn Pepper and Russel Kasza. Visitors would be wise to notify mission in advance. Address: P.O. Box 188, Cuba, New Mexico 87013. Please contact for further information.

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## INFIDEL LECTURER

A woman once delivered a lecture against Christianity, in which she declared Christ to be a myth. One of the mill hands obtained permission to ask her a question, and then said: "Thirty years ago I was a curse to this town, and every person who had any respect for himself shrank from me. I often tried to do better, but could not. The temperance people got hold of me, but I broke the pledge so often that they said it was no use trying me any longer. Then the police took charge of me, and the magistrate sent me to prison; and though they all tried I was nothing better, but rather worse. Next Christ took hold of me, He touched my heart and made a new man of me. You say that Christ is a myth; nay, the Gospel is the power of God unto salvation."



## REDEEMED SLAVE GIRL

In New Orleans, in the days of slavery, a young girl was placed upon the auctioneer's block, surrounded by a large crowd. Finally she was sold for fourteen hundred dollars to a gentleman from the North, who had been the highest bidder. With a heavy heart and tearful eyes she prepared to leave with her new master, to sever, as she may have supposed, the tender ties binding her to home and mother. The next morning the man went to the shrinking girl and handed her a paper. "What is this?" "Why, this is a receipt and release showing that I paid the price demanded for you, and now I give you your liberty — you are free!" "O, sir," she exclaimed, falling at his feet, "Let me follow you, let me be your willing slave."

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(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

FEBRUARY 15, 1981

NO. 4

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## WALK BESIDE ME

Walk beside me O, my Saviour  
Through the mornings sparkling dew.  
Then as daylight grows still brighter  
For each task my strength renew.  
When the evening spreads its shadows  
O'er the way that I must go  
Still Thy presence close beside me  
Will to me sweet peace bestow.  
Walk beside me, O, my Saviour  
Through this darkening vale of tears,  
For if thou art close beside me  
My faint heart can keep no fears:  
When at last the morning breaketh  
In the land of endless day  
Still my prayer shall be Dear Saviour,  
Walk beside me all the way.

- Sister Ollie M. Mallow  
Clearville, Pennsylvania 15535

## HOSTAGES

There has been a recent outpouring of national pride and joy at the release of the hostages held by Iran. These hostages have been able to return home where they have been very warmly received with honors, praise and thanksgiving. This whole episode has been unlike any other in our nation's history and hopefully it will never be repeated.

Hostages are under the control of others, so they may be mistreated, physically or mentally. Even if there is no mistreatment, the lack of freedom is harmful to the hostages, so when they regain freedom it is a glorious experience for them. A ransom is often demanded for the freedom of the hostage. With a price on his head, the lack of freedom, and the doubtfulness of his future, the hostage has a very difficult life.

The recent hostages were but a small handful compared to this country's population, yet their experience was shared by all. These few hostages have had their captivity publicized throughout the world. There are other hostages of whom we hear very little. These hostages are not prisoners of revolutionaries. These hostages are most of the world's population. These hostages are not prisoners for some political cause. Mankind, as a whole, are hostages of Satan. He holds them captive Spiritually.

Satan by scheme and subterfuge, has gained control over the lives and souls of mankind. It has never been God's will that mankind should be held hostage by this enemy but through sin and selfishness he has gained these prisoners. Some of his hostages are held by him through physical bonds like smoking, drinking and drugs. But others are held by fetters less physically evident but just as strong. Pride, worldliness and self-

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****FEBRUARY 15, 1981**

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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righteousness are amongst those bonds that keep these hostages under their master's control. Mankind was created by God that they might worship and reverence Him. But they have failed in their assigned mission. Instead they have allowed themselves to become captives of Satan. Adam and Eve were disobedient and their descendants have likewise thirsted after worldly wisdom, pleasure and self-gratification. Satan often holds hostages in the name of freedom and justice. By promising life and liberty, he entices mankind to forsake their duty to God and serve him instead. Although that service may seem enjoyable at the time, he nevertheless exacts a high price. Each hostage is held for a high ransom. Unless that ransom is paid the highest price will be extracted from the hostage — his soul.

When a hostage is held for ransom, usually the hostage has little part in delivering the ransom. It is usually left up to his family, friends, employer or government to deliver the demanded price. Here is a significant difference with the hostages of Satan. They have a very great part in arranging the ransom payment. God in His love for mankind has provided the ransom. He sent His Son to be the redeemer of hostage humanity. He desires and is able to buy back those who are under the devil's dominion. The only impediment to the delivery of this ransom is the attitude of the hostage himself. It could hardly be believed that any hostage would not want every effort to be made in behalf of securing his freedom. But many hostages of Satan oppose their own self interest by refusing to accept the payment that God is willing to make to redeem them.

God created man to serve Him. Satan gained the loyalty of most through deceitfulness. God has offered the gracious terms of redemption whereby a man can return to that original relationship and service but his sins hold him hostage. Unless he is freed, he will pay the ultimate price, therefore he must accept the redemption provided by God or there will be no release. There is nothing a man can do to secure his own redemption without accepting Jesus as his Saviour. When he complies with the terms of that acceptance, he is ransomed from the control of Satan. He no longer is under the devil's dominion, he is free to serve God, as God first intended. Satan does not give up his control over these hostages easily. He attempts to thwart them from hearing the Gospel and then he attempts to delay or prevent them from accepting the offered help. Even if they do accept the Lord's terms, Satan continues to lure them back into bondage.

Just as joy has marked the release of the American hostages, so joy accompanies the release of men from Satan's bondage. With joy, they can serve the God who created and bought them. If you are a hostage of Satan, accept the redemption provided by God, so you too can know the joy of a soul set free.

## SHARING CHRIST

"Sharing Christ" may sound a bit strange, like we are trying to give a little of Him here and another little part somewhere else, so everyone has a share. The reality is, to share Christ is to tell others of the good news of salvation provided for us by Christ. Christ is available to everyone — as a whole Person, as a complete Savior. Whatever need someone has, Christ can meet it on an individual and very personal basis. To share Christ is to share this good news.

"Sharing Christ" or witnessing can be difficult at times. It is often far easier not to witness than it is to attempt to lead someone to Christ, or to a closer walk with Him. If you don't witness, you won't need to think up any answers, for no one will be asking any questions. If you never witness, you will never hurt because someone rejects the Truth and says, "I don't want your Jesus!" If you don't witness, you will never lie awake half the night praying, while others are sleeping, because your heart is greatly burdened. But if you don't share Christ, you will never know the joy of helping someone get right with the Lord, either.

Your life is a silent witness, true, but it's not enough. People need to be told about Christ, about what He means to you and what He has done for you. They need to know about experiences you've had, to which they can relate and see how the Lord has met your need. Most people can grasp the fact that God can handle our soul's needs, but they need also to know He takes care of our everyday needs, both large and small. Only you can show this to others. Christ's love reaches into every area of our lives.

Do you still think witnessing is too hard? Let's see if we can make it a bit easier. Sometimes our witnessing is in-depth, requiring wisdom like Solomon's to come up with answers. Other times it is more casual, but whatever the need, handle it with TLC — tender, loving care. You can easily quench someone's interest if you are inconsiderate, so ask the Lord to help you love and treat your friend as Jesus would. That may be asking alot, but you need to be a friend, not just a witness.

When you sincerely ask the Lord for help, you will be given a whole new perspective. You will find yourself being a friend even when you get an unfavorable response. You will wait to say the things which need to be said until the person's heart is ready to receive it, even if it means waiting six months, or a year, or even ten years. You will find yourself praying often, your thoughts being frequently interrupted by the need of another's heart. Why will this happen? Because you must be patient and pray much? No!

Because you have learned to care and now willingly give of yourself to help.

To witness effectively, you must be aware of the depth of another's need. Next, you need a vision of that person's potential as a child of God. Some situations appear hopeless and a vision or goal of something better is very important. You must have assurance in your heart that the Lord can save and make something worthwhile of even the most wretched and sinful of lives. In particular, you need this assurance about the life of the person for whom you are praying.

When Christ cleanses a soul, He provides for that person's total well-being, including physical and emotional needs. See Matt. 4:24. You can't say, "Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole" (Luke 17:19), but when you share Christ, you can pay attention to all needs and do what you can. A hungry or poorly-clothed person will not be very receptive to a message about love until he sees love in action. A person who is deeply grieved needs your kindness and compassion, not just your preaching. There will be times when silence will be the best way of conveying love, both yours and God's. If you are uncertain as to what is best, wait for the Lord to direct. Acting hastily may only bring regrets.

"The Lord... is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." From II Peter 3:9. The Bible does not say exactly how we are to share Christ but it does say "go... and teach." The Bible does not say how much we should pray for the lost, but we are to be motivated by love in all we do (read I Cor. 13). The Golden Rule (Luke 6:31) sets a standard for our treatment of others, both saints and sinners. You are to love, encourage and support; the Lord will do the rest. If you have Christ in your heart, share Him with someone. All that you are or have is because of Him, and you have no right to keep Jesus to yourself.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## **"MY PEOPLE DOTH NOT CONSIDER"**

Grant Mahan

It was considerably more than twenty-three hundred years ago that the Lord, through His prophet, spoke these words concerning His people, Israel. He compared them to the ox and the ass, and the comparison did not favor the people; for the ox and the ass knew their master and did not leave him, while the people of Israel knew their Master but forsook Him for another. And so they were characterized as a "sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters."

We censure the Jews, we say that if we had been in their place, if we had had their chance, we "would not have crucified the Lord of Glory." But I wonder whether we would have done better than they did, whether the Lord would have spoken more highly of us than He did of them. I rather think He would not, for we "do not consider" as we should; we are sometimes more unknowing than the ox or the ass, for we do not always know our owner, nor our master's crib. If our love were to be judged by our devotion, the judge would be compelled to say that God is not the supreme object of our love; for we devote much more time to other things, we give them more thought, we plan more carefully to make them a success than we do to make our work for God succeed.

If we would but consider! If we would but withdraw and spend some time each day alone with God! Let it be in the early morning or any time during the day, or in the night watches; any time is a good time to consider what the Lord has done and is doing for us; how much we should do for Him, and how far we come short of doing it. We do not consider; and it is this lack of considering that makes us so much a sinful nation. What a daily record of crimes and sins the papers publish. The number of them would be very much smaller, and would finally cease to be, if the people would but consider.

The most sorry thing there is about it all is that God's own people, those who profess to follow in the footsteps of His Son, so often fail to consider, so often become a people laden with iniquity. The trouble with us is that we do not give Him the time that is His due; we do not meditate upon His Word; we do not consider His promises to us and our promises to Him; we forget that all His promises are conditional, and that only on our fulfilling our part of the conditions can we have any hope that He will give us the blessings for which we so much long when we take time to consider.

This is not a matter to which we may give attention when it happens to be convenient: there is nothing more important in the world for us than just this, for out of it are the issues of life, of happiness, of eternal happiness. We need time, we must take time to consider our relation to God — His care for us and the love and service we owe to Him. There is no time in life when it is safe to fail in this consideration. The careless thoughtless, indifferent man never gets anywhere that a real man wants to go to. We must give thought to our affairs if we wish to succeed in the affairs of this life; and as a matter of fact we usually give more thought to the things of this life than we do to the far more important things of the life to come.

"My people doth not consider." If there is anything that can cause sorrow in heaven, it must be just this, that the people who profess to have taken their stand with and for the Lord do not consider His commands, His pleadings with His people that they be faithful, that they love Him supremely and their brethren as themselves, that they seek His glory here and now, that they think of laying up their treasure above instead of here on the earth, where all is transitory.

The Lord would reason with us, would show us that we are trying to gather grapes from thorns and figs from thistles; and if we would but consider with Him He would convince us that we are losing the better for the worse, the gold for the dross, heaven and God for eternity without God.

May we think more of these things, more of the Lord's will during this year upon which we have so recently entered; may we strive more earnestly to serve Him more faithfully than we have during the years that are gone. In so doing we shall reap a great reward here and now, and one infinitely greater over there hereafter.

Selected from January 15, 1932  
Issue of the Bible Monitor

## **THE CHILDREN'S PAGE**

### **THE GOOD SAMARITAN**

Luke 10:25-37

Once while Jesus was speaking to the people, a lawyer stood up to tempt Him. Many times the scribes and the Pharisees had tried to trick Jesus into saying something that would cause Him to be arrested. The lawyer asked Jesus, "Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

This is a question which everyone should be interested in. We would all like to live forever, but what can we do to bring it about? Jesus said, "What is written in the law?" The lawyer answered, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all my strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself."

This lawyer knew his Bible because Jesus said, "Thou hast answered right; this do, and thou shalt live." So far the lawyer had not caused Jesus to say anything wrong. This man felt he was doing things just about right but he wanted to justify himself before Jesus. The scribes, Pharisees and lawyers were a proud, self-righteous people who thought themselves above helping anyone who was poor or of a lower class than themselves.

Jesus knew exactly how this man lived — just like He knows all about you and me. Jesus told the lawyer about a man who went down from Jerusalem to Jericho. The road between these two cities went through some rough country. Many times people were robbed along this road and that's what happened to this man. As he was going along he was met by thieves which stripped him of his clothing and beat him up, leaving him wounded and half dead. This road was traveled by a good many people and it wasn't long till a priest came along. The priests were supposed to help people and be good to them but this man had other things to do and when he saw the wounded man he passed by on the other side of the road. Maybe he thought he might get some blood on his clothes. Anyway he couldn't be bothered. Next there was a Levite who came and looked at the helpless man and he, too, passed by on the other side. A Levite was one who helped in the temple service and you would surely think this man would have stopped. The next one who came by was a Samaritan. He was a man who was only partly Jewish. The Samaritans were despised by the Jews and were not allowed to worship in their Temple. Jesus said that when this man saw the one who was robbed, he felt sorry for him, bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine. The wine was for cleansing and the oil for healing. Then he set the man on his own beast and took him to an inn. He gave the innkeeper some money and told him to take care of the man and whatever more it cost he would pay when he came that way again.

Jesus then asked the lawyer, "Which now of these three was neighbor unto him that fell among thieves." The lawyer said, "He that showed mercy on him." Then said Jesus, "Go, and do likewise."

I can imagine that the lawyer had more than he bargained for. I'm sure he was not used to helping those who were down and out. Neither were the Pharisees and scribes. Jesus said the Samaritan, whom the Jews despised, was the one who showed mercy rather than the priest or Levite. Can we show mercy unto those who need help? Jesus wants us to be good neighbors to those about us.

Brother Rudy Cover

## THEOLOGY OF ANGELS

We humbly submit this writing with the knowledge that there are those who are in disagreement with our line of thinking. We wish to express love toward these individuals and admit that we are fallible, therefore subject to error. It is our hope that the Holy Spirit will guide our thoughts as we search the Word of God for truth.

A thorough study of angels would demand a much larger writing than we wish to submit. Therefore we will mainly focus our attention on the subject of fallen angels. We, personally, feel that fallen angels in the New Testament are the same as demons. Satan, himself being a fallen angel, is the leader of all the demons, as we see it.

With these thoughts in mind we would like to look at Genesis 6:1-4. (To save space we will only quote verses 2 and 4.) "That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose. There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown." There are those who teach that the "sons of God" were fallen angels. We reject this teaching for several reasons which we would like to share with you.

First of all we do not feel that FALLEN angels would be called "sons of God." Furthermore, we believe that the preceding chapters explain who the "sons of God" and the "daughters of men" are. The latter part of chapter 4 gives the genealogy of Cain and ends with Lemech, a man in rebellion against God. Chapter 5 gives the genealogy of Seth and ends with Noah and his sons who were in submission to God. Therefore we submit that the "sons of God" were of the line of Seth and the "daughters of men" were of the line of Cain.

We feel there is another valid reason for rejecting these "sons of God" as being fallen angels. In Mark 12 the Sadducees questioned Jesus concerning the resurrection. He answered in verse 25 "For when they shall rise from the dead, they neither marry, nor are given in marriage; but are as the angels which are in heaven." We believe that Christ is teaching something here about the sex of angels. We feel he is teaching that they are neither male (marry) nor female (given in marriage) but are of a neuter gender. He, of course, is speaking about angels in heaven but we do not feel that fallen angels would change their sex. There is no teaching in scripture that even remotely suggests that angels beget angels. Rather the teaching seems to be that angels were created spiritual beings that never die. It would appear that God created all the angels that exist at one time and that there will be no more. Therefore angels do not have the power of procreation.

There are those who have gone a step farther in this teaching and would have us believe that Cain was the product of relations between Eve and Satan! This is, of course, contrary to plain scripture. See Genesis 4:1. Concerning Heavenly angels, there are

those who take the twelfth chapter of Daniel and would have us believe that the Lord Jesus Christ was no more than Michael the archangel. We mention this to show how scripture can be twisted and wild ideas proliferate.

In I Timothy 4:7 we read "But refuse profane and old wives fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness." And in II Timothy 4:4 "And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." Let us seek to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit and be careful that we do not relegate God's Holy Word to a mythological nonsensical tale.

Brother James M. Hite  
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Palmyra, Pa. 17078

## ALONE WITH GOD

We read in the Bible, that Jesus went up into the mountain to a place where He could be alone with God. He needed the help of the Father, so He could do the work He was sent here to do. Do we often go to a quiet place, where we can feel we are alone with God, and pray for His help as we travel along this life's highway. Where it is still, one can almost feel the Lord nearby. There no one will interfere with our communication with our blessed Lord.

It seems when I go out into the mountains I seem to come closer to the Lord. It seems sometimes I can almost hear Him speak to me. Many times during the past years I have gone over to the Ocean to study and prepare pieces, I wanted to write. It meant so much to me. Many pieces were composed by the ocean or a small creek. There all alone with my Bible and writing pad I spent many an hour.

We read where Jesus went up into the mountain just before the Transfiguration. I am sure He felt He needed strength from the Father. So we today can also receive help from Jesus when we go to Him in prayer and ask Him to help us. Let us always seek help from on High and our life here will be easier.

I have traveled from the West to the East several times. When I view the wonderful mountains, peaks and canyons, I can see God's handiwork. The Grand Canyon, the lovely waterfalls and the Rocky Mountains are among them. There are so many things, one can not forget that God created all these things, yet we still run into people who don't believe in God. We were always mindful that God was with us as we traveled and was protecting us. I have often thought about one, who never knew the Lord, how they feel on a long journey.

When we arrive at Conference we pause each time and thank our Lord that He has permitted us one more safe journey and that we can meet our dear Brethren and Sisters, from far and near, for another mountain top experience, fellowshiping and worshipping together for a few short days. We there look ahead to when we can meet as one family around the Throne of God where parting days will be over. May the Dear Lord keep us all in His care. If He sees fit for us one more time to gather to sing God's praises and study from His Holy Word, may we always give Him the thanks. When the time comes for us to part, everyone wishes it would last a little longer. Some day we won't have to part, if we so live before our Dear Lord. I am sure as we leave the Conference, year by year, we feel stronger in the Church and feel closer to the Dear Lord. It gives us greater desire to help those who once were in the fold to come back and live for Him before it is too late.

Many of us have received messages in this life. Some tell of someone coming to visit, others of someone very ill, then there's the sad message telling us a dear one has left us. Some are prepared to go and others never knew the Lord. Oh, how sad we are but it is not too late. Dear ones a message is coming to each of us some day. The thing is to be ready when the call comes. There were ten virgins, only five were wise and ready to go. The five foolish were not ready, so it will be when God calls each of us. Will we be ready? What excuse will you give if you're not ready, dear ones? I plead with you, find a quiet place today and make your peace with the Lord.

So many today are on the broad way that leads to destruction. Which way are you traveling? The narrow way will lead you Home to a life of joy and peace. Will you stop and see which way you are going? If you are on the road where the large crowd is, turn around and choose the narrow way where only a few are going. We are told only a remnant will be saved. You still have time. When the reckoning day comes and your name is not recorded how will you feel? You surely will be sad. This old world can neither give or take, nor can they comprehend, the peace of God which Christ has brought. This peace has no end.

Now, dear ones, lift your heart to the Heavens, you will find a loving Saviour who will satisfy your every need, if you come and spend some time in prayer. If we are His and follow all His commandments and work in the vineyard of the Lord, we need to pray for help from on High. Take time out to be alone with the Lord. He is all ready to forgive us our sins and shortcomings, but we must seek His help. You know, the devil always paints a flowerly path to get you to go with him but he is a deceiver. You

may think his way is cheaper but in the end it will be very expensive, when you have lost that treasure of a home in Heaven.

We are told Satan trembles, when he sees the weakest saint upon his knees. Many of the dear Saints that have gone Home spent hours on their knees pleading for the beloved Church that she would always be faithful. We will find that all the great men of God from the Patriarchs down to the present time spent much time in prayer. If you want to learn to pray you must keep at it. If you want to learn any thing you have to keep at it. The more time we spend on our knees the stronger we are. Elijah was a praying man, so was Jacob and Daniel. Some prayed all night. We read Moses prayed forty days and nights. He was praying to save a nation. I often wonder what would take place if a Church, a body of true followers of Jesus, would meet and pray all night for those who have left the little flock. Would we not see results? If we wait upon the Lord, He will renew our strength.

Jesus is our example and He spent much time in prayer. I think there are times that Jesus thought prayer was more important to Him than rest. He told us to pray to the Lord of the harvest that He would send forth laborers into the harvest. Several places in God's Word we find the results of prayer. On the day of Pentacost, while in prayer, the disciples were filled with the Holy Ghost. At the hour of prayer, a lame man was healed. Peter's prayer raised Dorcas to life. As Peter prayed he received a vision which sent him to the Gentiles. Through prayer, Paul received his sight. Paul admonished us to pray. I feel that by praying the Church today can accomplish more for the Lord than any other way. Many troubles have been solved in Church through prayer.

Let us not grow weary and forget to pray. Let us not become idle or we will be like a house that has no walls. Then the devil can enter on every side.

As I travel on life's journey  
To the City bright and fair,  
Tho sometimes it seems  
I have lots of trouble to bear,  
I can always call on Christ my Saviour,  
Knowing He will answer my prayer.  
He is near, this friend so dear,  
And awaits to welcome me There.  
I am going home to live with Jesus,  
In that City so bright and fair;  
Then I'll live with Him forever,  
And His glory with loved ones we will share.  
'Round the Father's throne in glory

Precious loved ones for us wait;  
I know it won't be long  
Before I go through the gate.  
There within that Holy City,  
I shall meet them all once more;  
And with them I will live again  
On Heaven's bright, beautiful shore,  
That will be a great reunion  
Over on the Heavenly shore  
There will be no bitter tears  
And parting will be o'er.  
We shall clasp the hand of Jesus,  
And know as we are known,  
And we'll sing forever  
Around the beautiful, bright throne.

Let us keep on praying for all the lost ones. We know Christ can take sin out of their lives but we must be on our guard that sin doesn't take prayer out of our lives.

Sister E. M. Alltus

## LAYING ASIDE, THEN GROWING

D. K. Marks

"Wherefore laying aside all malice and all guile and hypocrisies and envies, and all evil speakings, as new-born babes desire the sincere milk of the word that ye may grow thereby." I Pet. 2:1-2. These are the words of the Apostle Peter (after he was converted) that he gave to the Brethren and Sisters scattered abroad throughout the different countries. We take notice that Peter says we shall lay aside the things in the first verse so we will go on to verse 2. "As newborn babes desire the sincere milk of the word that ye (a spiritual house) may grow thereby.

When a natural babe is born in the world it soon needs milk for nourishment to make it grow. The babe drinks milk several times in a day, later the babe eats bread and meat to grow faster and stronger, so the spiritual babe must have the sincere milk of the word of God to grow. Peter says add to your faith, virtue. We all know what faith is, believing God's word, obeying and following all the commandments of Jesus. Virtue, strength and power added to faith makes a stronger faith. To virtue knowledge, reading and meditating in the Bible will give us more knowledge and to knowledge temperance, to temperance patience. For an example of patience read the Book of Job and compare to self. To patience godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, to brotherly kindness

charity or the pure unchangeable lasting love that Jesus had for his disciples till he ascended to Heaven. "If these things be in you and abound they shall make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Looking at the natural rocks and stones in this world they are strong and enduring; the rain, snow, heat and cold beat upon them and they remain, especially those in the mountains where man does not molest them, from generation to generation. So Peter points to Jesus as a rock, the chief cornerstone, chosen of God and precious to those who have faith in Him, obey all His commands and love Him. Their spiritual life and growth will be as strong and everlasting as stones in a house. A natural stone house stands for generations if the stones are held together by mortar or cement; so love binds the child of God to Jesus, the Rock, and His faithful followers are bound together while the natural life lasts, then after death ascend up into Heaven to inherit, live and reign with God and Jesus forever. What a grand and glorious time it will be. Jesus was not accepted by many as the chief cornerstone. They were offended at Him, they would not accept His teaching, they stumbled and fell.

We shall again refer to the natural babe. When it drinks or eats that which is not good for it, it becomes sick and does not grow. Peter throws out the warning of spiritual poison in the first verse. Jesus says, "Except your righteousness exceed the righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven." Reviewing the life of the scribes and Pharisees, they hated and envied Jesus when He taught them the way to Heaven. Day by day envy, jealousy, and evil speaking grew in their hearts and increased to murder, they finally condemned Jesus to be nailed to the cross. May we ever pray and search the scriptures that we may grow spiritually as Jesus and the inspired writers taught and wrote.

Selected from July 15, 1944

Bible Monitor by Brother J. F. Marks

## **OBITUARY**

### **ROY OSBORN**

Roy Madison Osborn was born at Goodland, Kansas, August 16, 1892. The son of David and Alice (Wiley) Osborn. He passed from this life at Beaumont, California, January 6, 1981 at the age of 88 years, 4 months and 21 days.

He was baptized early in life in the Presbyterian Church at Santa

Ana, California. He was faithful in attendance and help for several years at Winterhaven Dunkard Brethren Church.

He moved with his parents to Santa Ana, California in 1907 and spent most of his subsequent life in California.

He was united in marriage with Sister Mary Miller, April 15, 1970. She survives along with two sisters, Eva Osborn and Esther Bailey, Santa Ana, California; two step-grandsons, nieces, nephews, relatives and many friends, to mourn his passing.

Funeral services were held at the Weaver Mortuary, Beaumont, California, January 9, 1981 by Elder Hayes Reed assisted by Bro. Rudy Cover. The graveside services were conducted by Bro. Milton Cook at Mountain View Cemetery, Beaumont.

Thank you, each one, for the lovely cards. Your letters, telephone calls and prayers were a comfort at the time of Roy's passing. The kindness of the "church family" helped relieve my burden of sorrow.

Sister Mary Osborn

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MARCH

March 1 — Filled with the Spirit - Acts 4:31-37.

March 8 — Ananias and Saphira; Miracles and Healings - Acts 5:1-16

March 15 — The Empty Prison - Acts 5:17-28.

March 22 — Obedience to God Rather than Man - Acts 5:29-42.

March 29 — Seven Deacons Chosen; The Faith of Stephen - Acts 6:1-15.

### QUESTIONS:

- (1) In Acts 4:31 a multitude of believers were filled with the Holy Spirit. What condition did this bring upon them? Acts 4:32.
- (2) Was Ananias and Saphira compelled to sell their land and give the money derived from it to the Apostles? Acts 5:4.
- (3) After the Apostles were released from prison by the angel of the Lord, what did the angel command them to do? Acts 5:19.
- (4) What was Peter's answer to the high priest who commanded them not to teach in the name of Jesus? Acts 5:29. Did they stop teaching and preaching about Jesus? Acts 5:42.
- (5) What did Stephen look like when he was accused before the council of the Jews? Acts 6:15.

## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR MARCH, 1981

### DEATH

Memory Verse: Phil. 2:8

And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Sun. 1 - Gal. 2:1-21

Mon. 2 - Eph. 1:1-23

Tues. 3 - Eph. 2:1-22

Wed. 4 - Eph. 5:1-21

Thur. 5 - Phil. 1:1-30

Fri. 6 - Phil. 2:1-16

Sat. 7 - Phil. 2:17-30

Memory Verse: Phil. 3:10 & 11

That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

Sun. 8 - Phil. 3:1-21

Mon. 9 - Col. 1:1-29

Tues. 10 - Col. 2:1-23

Wed. 11 - Col. 3:1-25

Thur. 12 - I Thess. 1:1-10

Fri. 13 - I Thess. 4:1-18

Sat. 14 - I Tim. 5:1-25

Memory Verse: I Thess. 4:16

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first.

Sun. 15 - 2 Tim. 1:1-18

Mon. 16 - 2 Tim. 2:1-26

Tues. 17 - 2 Tim. 4:1-22

Wed. 18 - Heb. 2:1-18

Thur. 19 - Heb. 5:1-14

Fri. 20 - Heb. 6:1-20

Sat. 21 - Heb. 7:1-28

Memory Verse: Heb. 2:9 & 14

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. — For as much then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

Sun. 22 - Heb. 9:1-28

Mon. 23 - Heb. 11:1-20

Tues. 24 - Heb. 11:21-40

Wed. 25 - Heb. 13:1-25

Thur. 26 - James 1:1-27

Fri. 27 - James 2:1-26

Sat. 28 - James 5:1-20

Memory Verse: James 1:14 & 15

But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust has conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

Sun. 29 - I Pet. 1:1-25

Mon. 30 - I Pet. 2:1-25

Tues. 31 - I Pet. 3:1-22

Memory Verses: James 5:19 & 20

Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

I Pet. 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. VIX

MARCH 1, 1981

NO. 5

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## I DO BELIEVE

Father, I stretch my hands to thee,  
No other help I know;  
If thou with-draw thyself from me,  
Ah! whither shall I go?

What did thine only Son endure,  
Before I drew my breath?  
What pain, what labor to secure  
My soul from second death?

O Jesus could I this believe,  
I now should feel thy pow'r;  
Now my poor soul thou wouldst retrieve,  
Nor let me wait one hour!

Author of faith, to thee I lift  
My weary, longing eyes;  
O let me now receive that gift!  
My soul, without, it dies.

- Charles Wesley

## ASPIRATIONS

Everyone has aspirations. Children, young people, adults and the elderly all have aspirations of some kind. Those aspirations may not always be high or holy, but still they are aspirations that influence people's lives for good or evil.

The aspirations of men are varied. One person will even have many different aspirations within himself. He will desire various achievements in the different areas of his life. There are physical, social, economic and Spiritual aspirations. Although one aspiration may be greater than others, all will continue to exist and will continue to demand at least some attention. The conflict between the aspirations within a man will necessitate the establishment of priorities in giving attention to each need.

Each aspiration is a goal. The desire and priority given to each goal will determine how near each aspiration will be filled. The goals that are set and the priorities given to each area of life are a point of difference between the Christian and the non-Christian.

The non-Christian will set his goals and priorities (consciously or unconsciously) as Satan dictates. Pleasure, fame and riches may bring him these goals. He may, however, discover that the joy he anticipated from these things will fade. He may find that the cost for attaining these things was far too great for the price of sin and selfishness is high. A man's soul is his greatest possession, but he has only this lifetime to prepare it for its eternal destiny. If his goals and priorities are the wrong ones, he will pay dearly.

The Christian should be aspiring for eternal, Spiritual things. His desires should be above the transitory objects and feelings of this world. He should be willing to pay the price demanded in self

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****MARCH 1, 1981**

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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denial that he may attain the soul's greatest eternal good. Therefore his goals must be higher than those of the world. Faithfulness and obedience have a part in attaining these goals. They are themselves worthy aspirations. To be faithful and obedient to God is a worthy goal as well as a means of obtaining eternal life.

No matter how dedicated the Christian may be, he still must live in this world. Although his aspirations may be very high and noble and intense, he still can not depart from this world until the Lord recalls the breath of life. His aim for Spiritual rather than worldly attainments does not release him from aspirations for worldly things. He can not live the hermit's life if he is to have a Christian witness in this world. He can not idly rock himself asleep if he is to carry out the duties of an obedient Christian.

The Christian will continue to have economic, social and even physical aspirations while on this pilgrim journey. These aspirations must be kept subject to the higher Spiritual goals for the Spiritual must influence all other aspects of life. If the Christian is to have an influence and a witness it must be evident to the unbelievers around him that he lives for something greater than the world's idea of success. His relationship with others must be tempered by Christian love. His economic dealings must be guided by Christian honesty and truthfulness. His physical desires must be controlled by love and the Golden Rule. A man can not exclude certain areas of his life from Christian standards. If his whole life is not controlled by Christ, he will, in the end, lose the attainment of what he expressed to be his utmost goal — pleasing God. A man's Christian life can not be confined to Sunday.

The Christian's aspirations for worldly things must be tempered with the knowledge that the things of this world, even when gained by Christian means and used to further Christian purposes, are only for a lifetime. The fleeting things of this world can be useful for furthering Christian activities, yet they can become so overbearing that a trust in them will be built up replacing the trust that should be in God. The god of this world is cunning in drawing attention from our greatest aspiration to lesser things. Our aspiration must be to serve God, whatever temporal price may be demanded.

What are your aspirations? Are they consistent with the Word of God and the Golden Rule? Will they aid your journey through this life? Will they help you serve God faithfully? Will they help you gain Heaven?

## DO UNTO OTHERS

"Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets." Matt. 7:12.

Nearly everyone knows the Golden Rule. It leaves no room for selfishness, revenge, unkindness and so forth. If we all got back immediately what we dish out, we'd be more willing to practice this rule. It can and should be applied in every area of life, but so often it is shoved aside and selfishness takes over. Self says, "me first"; the Golden Rule says, "others first."

When I was in high school, we had a bus driver who said his idea of the Golden Rule was "Do unto others as they do unto you, only a little bit worse." Whether or not he actually practiced this, I'm not sure, but some of this sort of self-centered attitude was evident right at home. His family of thirteen children did not have an easy life in any way. It is understandable that a family that size would mean hard work for all, but that was not the problem.

In the summer, it was a common sight to see this man sitting on the tractor while his wife and children handled the fertilizer. He was a big man, very able to do such work. Other farm chores were done similarly — they did the work, he bossed. This family seldom had any meat and when there was money for some, Father got it. No one else was allowed to have any. Sometimes he would order his wife to make some fudge — after everyone else was in bed. Need I tell you that Christ was not the head of this home?

This man was not motivated by the Golden Rule, and it showed in all he said and did. Whatever contact you have with others, if you are not motivated by God's love in your heart, you will treat others much as this man did. You will not practice the Golden Rule, but will put yourself in the center of everything, selfishly taking what you want and disregarding others. You may be considerate of certain people, and that's good as far as it goes, but the Golden Rule applies to ALL others, not just a few.

The Golden Rule teaches us to do unto others as we would have them do for us, but so often, what we do or say is governed by what we think someone else deserves. If we treat others as they deserve to be as we see it, we've set ourselves up as their judge. God never intended for us to judge others, nor are we to use anything but the Golden Rule as our measuring stick to measure our motives and desires toward others.

This rule covers all personal contacts, business matters, the Lord's work, everything wherein our lives touch the life of another person. What we "do unto others" starts right at home and from

there extends into all other areas of our lives. We can't have one set of attitudes for home and another set for other people and circumstances. The home situation includes how you treat your companion, children and all visitors. Outside the home, there's your job, your boss, the clerks in the stores. Serving the Lord and witnessing of His love and mercy are done anytime, anyplace. The Golden Rule applies in this also.

The Golden Rule is a measuring stick which quickly shows our inconsistencies. We encourage certain people, then ignore others who need help. Husbands compliment a good cook, then take their wives' good meals for granted. Wives complain that their husbands are hard to get along with and are grumpy themselves. Parents find fault with their children, then wonder why they are not respected. Dad gives everyone a job, then he takes it easy. Mom is too busy to listen when Junior needs someone to talk to. So on it goes.

As you look at your own life, where do you fit in this picture? Is the Golden Rule your rule for living, loving and giving? Or do you reserve a little room here and there for a bit of selfishness? As a believer in Christ, you have a special obligation to live by this rule, to be considerate, kind and so forth, whether others are or not. The Lord has been merciful to you and He expects you to be merciful to others, to forgive as you would like to be forgiven.

There is no end to the application of this rule, but there is a place to start. The best thing you can do for your family, friends and neighbors is, first of all, to love God totally from your heart. Only then can you love your neighbor as yourself. See Mark 12:30-31. Romans 13:10a says "Love worketh no ill to his neighbor." With God's love in your heart, it is possible to "Love your enemies" as well as your neighbors, to bless them that curse you, to pray for those who misuse you. (See Matt. 5:44)

"Gather the people together, men, women, and children, and thy stranger that is within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear the Lord your God, and observe to do all the words of this law." Deut. 31:12. In all your doing for others, don't forget to tell them of Christ. You would want to be told about Him, if you didn't already know, so "do unto others as you would have them do unto you" in your spiritual life as well as in your daily activities.

Sister Eileen Broadwater



A wise man will make haste to forgive, because he knows the full value of time and will not suffer it to pass away in unnecessary pain. — Rambler.

## MY THANKS

Dear Lord,

I've been thinking about writing you a "thank you" letter. We have many thank you's to write and I just made a quick run over the donation book and decided I wrote around three hundred and ten for the Mission in 1980. I'm sure I missed some of the good people that donated, but it was not intential.

Now my thoughts run this way — if I thank friends for what they have contributed to the work, I should certainly thank you for what you have meant to all of us in so many ways!

I think of the times when Satan was trying to ruin my day and I told him to get out of here and you brought me victory over him! That is so much to be thankful for and perhaps should be first on my list as Satan is doing so much and working so hard on believers and we should especially thank you for help in victory over him.

We think of the spiritual victories won in the past few weeks and how we are grateful for this. We have never experienced anything like this moving and it overwhelms us. We know we lack shepherds to work with the lambs but we know if we trust You, You will bring those shepherds that should be at this sheep-fold and they will come. For this we thank you before it comes to pass.

For our staff family, we thank you. For the hard work of each, for the times they have volunteered their services and gave an uplift to the physical labor that was to be done, for their love for the Navajos — we are grateful.

And for my own family, Lord, you have been so good. I thank you for my husband, for Mary, Paul and Tena and for what they mean to the work and to our lives. And for our parents and for the part they have been in backing us up in our chosen field. For our brothers and sisters in the flesh and in the spiritual family who pray for us and help us in many ways.

You have promised to supply all of our needs and You certainly have. For instance, food. Our cave has never had more food in it. The frozen food is still coming in and we had a lot of produce.

We think of "roofs over our heads" but they are much more than that. Our forced-air furnace isn't quiet but the children like the comfortable sound. We have a heater and a fireplace if the electricity goes off and gas ovens and heaters in our homes here also.

And, Lord, the list could go on and on. For the Sister who makes my dresses and one that makes our coverings, for those who keep writing when I don't get a reply to each one, for the beautiful blue sky and white fluffy clouds, for the privilege of working here, for

our land of an open Bible — but I will end with this, Lord, and thank you most of all that my name is written in Heaven!

With love,  
Sister Mildred Skiles  
Torreon Navajo Mission

## GOD'S MEEK ONES

"Blessed are the meek; for they shall inherit the earth." Matt. 5:5. Our Lord here was quoting Ps. 37:11, "But the meek shall inherit the earth: and shall delight themselves with the abundance of peace."

We see in this word "meek", as used in Scripture, true purpose and strength, also beauty and peace. Ps. 149:4, "For the Lord taketh pleasure in His people. He will beautify the meek with salvation."

But this word has suffered much in modern useage. It has been so often in comic portrayals of spineless men, always apologetic, easily pushed around and domineered by strong-willed characters. In the present worldly, humanistic culture, there is no place for Mr. Meek except at the bottom. Today, humorists have this character in stock to use for entertainment and derision.

But no Christian need be apologetic or weak-kneed about using this word. Meekness was one of the characteristics of Jesus Christ. It is a part of His true "I am" statement in Matthew 11:29. "Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest for your souls."

Thank God for good dictionaries that try to hold the language in line so it may be constructively used in true positive and negative speech. New Websters (1967) gives this, "Meekness, the quality of being meek, mildness, gentleness, forbearance under injuries and provocations, unassuming, mild, gentle-yielding." Its antonyms, "bold, arrogant, proud, high spirited, haughty."

Cruden (last century) gives a deeper and fuller meaning to this word. 1. "Meekness signifies a temper of Spirit that is not easily provoked, suffers injury without desire for revenge, and quietly submits to the Will of God." Col. 3:12. 2. "An humble, submissive frame of spirit ready to receive and entertain the Truth of God." This meaning is emphasized in Jas. 1:19-21. "Wherefore my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. Wherefore put away all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the ingrafted word, which is able to save your souls."

This word gathers strength as we study its Biblical use. Num. 12:3 gives Moses as the meekest of men. He took the insults of Aaron and Miriam silently, waiting for God's Word.

Meekness rises above insult and injury, trusting in God's final righteous judgment, and also waiting on God for right words. Or else to be silent as Christ was in court, where He was taken before the very ones He had openly denounced and threatened with God's final judgments of damnation in hell. We have here a very high form of intelligence and control that ever keeps God's future judgments in mind.

Christ's "meek" ones are registered, life students in His School of Grace. Here the flesh and all humanistic tendencies are denied, as the Word of God, by the Spirit of God trains heart and mind for its future inheritance. A Christian's meekness is to God, as His gentleness is to man. Such a one giving out the Word by the power of the Holy Spirit has great power with God and with men.

A Christian knows that human rights and privileges are really God-given and should be used to His glory. The Word of God is always the final judge in these matters. Meek before God to receive from Him and gentle toward man, the Holy Spirit is ever ready to give us proper words for each occasion.

To be an inheritor of this earth, as we know it, would present no charms to today's Christian. Each day we hear more of the problems of earth-dwellers. Wasted forests, eroded farm lands, depleted energy resources, earthquakes, floods and famines with new diseases and contaminated water and air, wars and war threats, with earth devastating bombs capable of destroying all life on this planet are poised, ready for instant use. Worse than these, is man's inhumanity to man as thousands are being ruthlessly slaughtered and persecuted. Unborn children are being inhumanly deprived of life. Crime increases, as alcohol and drug addiction draw hordes of youth into the sensuous Broadway that leads to death. Jesus' words were never more true in any age, "And many there be that go in that way." These should speak to us of Earth's crying need for the Prince of Peace to return, to rule the earth in righteousness.

God's meek ones ever "hallow" the name of our Father in Heaven. Here the fear of God brings wisdom to know how to address and to effectively pray and to praise Him. Christ's own know a great heart longing for the coming of Christ and His Kingdom, where God's Will, will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Our personal needs are made known to Him as we confess our own shortcomings and plead His pardoning grace for forgiveness. We search our hearts for any unconfessed sin, and forgive from the

heart those who trespass against us. More, as we are of ourselves no match for Satan's traps and temptations, we will learn to "pray without ceasing and in everything give thanks." In the foreverness of Christ's Kingdom, power and great glory, the meek soul humbly feels, by the grace of God, to be a living part of Christ's final inheritance. Our victory over Satan is in Christ and His Words of Spirit and of life.

Meekness is not a goal to be reached, but rather a heart's crying need of the Saviour, the "Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world."

God's meek ones become strong in the Lord and the power of His might. We are His Ambassadors bringing a gracious invitation. Rev. 22:17. "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

Your Brother in Christ,  
James D. Cover

## WHERE IS OUR CHOICE FOR ETERNITY?

Our choice of obedience or disobedience, here in this life, will decide our place of eternity. Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people. Our choice must be obedience in order to enter that glorious eternity.

We have the record and results in God's Word of what disobedience meant to those who were disobedient. Let us meditate upon what happened in the Garden of Eden. Israel also failed to enter Canaan on schedule because of disobedience. Moses their leader was barred from the Promised Land because he disobeyed one of God's commands.

Noah's obedience unto God was salvation unto him and his family, protecting them from the flooded earth. Also obedience to God was protection in the den of lions and the fiery furnace. Today our salvation comes through our choice of accepting the saving Gospel of Christ. John the Baptist felt his unworthiness to baptize the sinless Savior. It was done to set an example and to open up the way for our salvation. When Christ was baptized in the River Jordan, there came a voice from Heaven saying, "this is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased." He taught by example and precept. We should do as He has done. Before He ascended into Heaven, He told His disciples, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

Have we made our choice to follow Christ each day and to keep on the strait and narrow way that leads to eternal glory? It is foolish to accept the choice of disobedience, the broad way, the wide gate, that leads to destruction. The Spirit of God that bringeth salvation has appeared unto all men. Many are called but few are chosen having not made their choice the path of truth and righteousness.

Today, we have the condition that some claim to be ministers of the Gospel who do not believe in the teaching and the observance of all things. I have heard false reports, foolish jokes and stories and imaginations with no Gospel value being used in sermons when the Gospel should have been preached. A woe is pronounced upon those who do not preach the Gospel of Christ. We are not to be forgetful hearers but doers of God's Word. We have the condition that some do not want good Gospel sermons. They will not endure sound doctrine so they have heaped to themselves teachers having itching ears.

We are called to repentance and obedience for salvation. Which have we chosen, the plan of salvation, the narrow way, or the destructive way of sin and folly? It takes the teaching and the observance of all things to be true Christians. Today, salvation can be ours through the saving Gospel of Christ. We must be obedient to this call of God through Christ.

It is a serious offense to become misleading and offensive to the way of truth and righteousness. We cannot serve two masters. We are to read, hear and be obedient to God's calling through Christ. God's call through Christ turns to the true and marvelous light of the Gospel. "Trust and obey for there is no other way to be happy in Jesus."

Jesus said, "Woe unto the scribes and Pharisees for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men." Also, "Except your righteousness exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees ye shall in no wise enter the kingdom of heaven." Have we chosen the new life in Christ Jesus? Are we His for service?

We can choose sin unto death or obedience unto righteousness. Have we made our choice the narrow way of truth and righteousness? Many including professing Christians fail to renounce Satan with all his pernicious ways and the sinful pleasures of this world. Are we among God's obedient chosen few?

Brother J. F. Marks  
Rt. 9 Box 860  
Plant City, Fla. 33566

## THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

### THAT GOOD PART

Luke 10:38-42

Bethany was a small town near Jerusalem, where a family, whom Jesus loved very much, lived. The family consisted of a brother, Lazarus, and his two sisters, Martha and Mary. Many times Jesus came to this home. I'm sure that this family loved Jesus.

One time, Jesus came to visit and it seems that only Martha and Mary were home. Martha was a very industrious person and a good housekeeper. She met Jesus and invited Him to stay for a meal. Martha knew that Jesus often went without food and she was determined to prepare a good meal for the Master, whom she loved.

Mary was probably younger than Martha and helped her with the house work. Martha was used to having Mary help get the meals, but this time Mary was so interested in Jesus and what He was saying that she apparently had forgotten all about helping her sister. Jesus could tell things no other man could tell. As Jesus spoke, Mary was concerned with nothing but the wonderful words of her Lord.

Martha was having quite a time preparing a good meal and she knew Jesus was hungry. Naturally, she expected Mary to help her. Seeing Mary sitting at Jesus' feet, she said to Jesus, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her to come and help me."

Jesus said to Martha, "Martha, Martha, you are careful and troubled about many things: But one thing is needful; and Mary has chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her."

Jesus came into this world to die for the sins of the people and teach them how to live that they might have eternal life. This was the important thing. Having food to eat is necessary for the body, but Jesus was here to save souls.

Jesus loved Martha but He wanted to show her and Mary, and us too, that being interested in His teaching was far more important than preparing or serving food or doing anything else.

The good part that Mary had chosen was for everybody. We can all listen to Jesus. We can't see Him as He was when Martha and Mary were alive but we can read His Word and do what He says. We, too, can choose that good part that will not be taken away. Jesus said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away but my words shall not pass away."

Brother Rudy Cover

## LOVE

If we don't have love, how can we be children of God? Love will draw us together, but hate will drive us apart. Love is so essential in the life of a child of God and in our Christian walk of life. If we don't have love for the dear ones who are going astray, how will we be able to win them to Christ?

God so loved the world that He gave His only Son that we might be saved. He did this for each of us. No one is forgotten with the Dear Lord. He loves all of us. Do we love Him? If we do, we will serve Him. In this world today so many don't know the Love of Jesus and many don't care to. They seem satisfied with their lives. But our blessed Lord does not want anyone to be lost. He came to save sinners. He provided a way for everyone to have their sins washed away and take up their cross and daily follow Him. He will make you white as snow and you will become a joint heir with Jesus Christ. Then your desire will be to go out into the vineyard and work for Him, helping to bring the lost back to the fold.

LOVE is only a four letter word, but it is very important in each of our lives, if we truly love the Lord. To me it is one of the most important words in our language if we really have the desire to go all the way with the Lord. Jesus gave us a commandment in John 15:12 "that ye love one another." Are we following that commandment today or do we just love those we care to. Let us be careful, dear ones. Do we value each Christian the same as another or do we just love some more than others? Let us check our own lives and see if they come up to the pattern Christ has laid down for us to follow. If not, let us try to do all we can to help each other, for the time is coming close when we will have to give an account before God.

There is none of us but what have faults in our lives. Let us try to correct them. We would not be human if we didn't have faults, but we are to look at our own lives before we try to correct another. Let love reign and I am sure everything will work out to the glory of God. Above all, let us love all those who have come out from the world and are trying to live and work for the Lord. If all of His children will put love into practice, we will all be a happier people and His work here below will be more satisfying. We know true happiness does not come from having lots of money. I know alot of poor ones who I believe are trying to do all they can to further the cause of Christ, which brings real joy and happiness into their life.

"Greater love hath no man than this that he is willing to lay down his life for his friends." Are we willing to do this? Do we have that love? I often think of a small child and his pet dog. Many times I

believe he, in time of danger, would risk his own life to save that pet. To me that is real love. A loving and happy people today are those who have been redeemed by the precious blood of the lamb, and are going out to help bring souls, who have never known that joy and peace, so they too can love the dear Lord and have that peace and happiness in their soul. If you have a problem in your life, let love take over and it can be solved.

Jesus surely manifested that wonderful spirit of love in John 13:23. "Now there was leaning on his bosom one of his disciples, whom he loved." Because of his devotion to duty and his loyalty to Christ, the Word shows us that Jesus loved him. Does Jesus love us today? If not, why not? John was a disciple of Jesus. I am sure he loved Him greatly. If he did not, why would we find him leaning on Jesus' bosom? Jesus loved him so much that He gave the care of His loving Mother to him to comfort her and each of us pray that we may be worthy of that love.

Sister E. M. Alltus

## **SUNDAY - THE SABBATH DAY**

by Elvonia J. George

There seems to be considerable difference of opinion among Christians as to whether they should worship on the seventh day of the week (Saturday) or the first day of the week (Sunday), the day upon which Christ arose from the tomb, called in holy writ, the Lord's Day. For this reason I feel compelled to write this article to reveal some important facts which should help others understand why we worship on Sunday, the first day of the week.

The first day of the week, Sunday is called the sabbath eight times in the original Greek Bible. Had the Bible been translated correctly, much of the present confusion in this matter would have been eliminated. "In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week." (Matt. 28:1). In Greek, this was written "Sabbath" instead of "first day" of the week. Thus in the original Greek this was written: "In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the sabbath..." This text may be confusing because of the reference to two sabbaths, unless one keeps in mind the fact that the Christian sabbath (first day of the week) immediately follows the Jewish sabbath (seventh day of the week). Hence the reference to the two sabbaths. The same reference is also found in the following scriptures: Mark 16:9, Luke 24:1, John 20:1, John 20:19, Acts 20:7, I Cor. 16:2. Remember in the original Greek this was written "sabbath" instead of "first day" of the week in each of these references.

The commandment to observe the sabbath day was incorporated in the law of Moses, the Apostle Paul stated, "wherefore the law was our school master to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith." (Gal. 3:24). If the law of Moses were the schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, it would seem reasonable to assume that when Christ had come, there would be no further need of the schoolmaster. When we understand the law of Moses, including its sabbaths, was a schoolmaster to bring us to Christ, we are better able to understand why the Lord permitted his prophet, Hosea, to declare that he would cause Israel's sabbaths to cease: I will cause all her mirth to cease, her feast days, her new moons, and her sabbaths, and all her solemn feasts. (Hosea 2:11)

When Hosea's prophecy was fulfilled the way was obviously opened for introduction of the new sabbath. The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath, therefore the son of man is Lord also of the sabbath. If the son of man is Lord also of the sabbath, then surely he was the authority to change the sabbath day from Saturday to Sunday. "I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill." (Matt. 5:17)

We prefer to accept that which Jesus brought to take the place of the law, which includes the new sabbath, the first day of the week, or the Lord's day, Sunday, the day Jesus rose from the tomb.

Because the sabbath day was changed, the Apostle Paul realized that the saints would be criticized as they were for other practices to which the Jews objected: Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of any holy day, or of the new moon or of the sabbath days. (Col. 2:16) This warning would have been entirely uncalled for were the saints worshipping on the Jewish sabbath, for the Jews then would have had no occasion to judge them on this matter. The apostles did meet with the Jews in their synagogues on their sabbath (Saturday) to teach them the Gospel. However, the records are quite complete indicating that the saints often met to worship on the first day of the week (Sunday), the Lord's day, or the day Jesus rose from the tomb. "Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you." (John 20:19) "And, upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to part on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight." (Acts 20:7)

Sunday is indeed named after the sun, but, regardless of what the name is or for whom she was named, she is nevertheless the first day of the week; the sabbath day to many, and rightly so.

Selected by Sister Ruby Sowers

## NEWS ITEMS

### PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

The Pleasant Ridge Congregation, the Lord willing, will hold their two weeks revival meetings March 15 through March 29. Bro. Edward Johnson is to be our evangelist.

Pray for these meetings and come enjoy them with us.  
Sister Ruth Kleinhenn, Cor.

### BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, the Bethel Congregation plans to hold revival services March 22 to April 5, 1981 with Elder Allen Eberly, Ephrata, Pennsylvania, as our evangelist.

We invite all who can to come and worship with us.  
Sister Fern Kegerreis, Cor.

### SHREWSBURY, PENNSYLVANIA

We had an enjoyable Christian experience at our Lovefeast in November. We were thankful for our visiting ministers from the First, Second and Third Districts of the Brotherhood, who brought many good messages during the day. The brethren were: Dale Jamison, Paul Myers, Joshua Rice, Frank Shaffer, Ray Shank, Howard Surbey, Virgil Leatherman, John Pepper, Paul Hartz, Laverne Keeney and David Kegerreis. Elder Dale Jamison officiated in the evening.

Our Revival Meetings were another mountain-top experience. Bro. Dennis St. John from Ohio was our evangelist. He had many challenging and inspiring messages from the sacred scriptures. We were happy for a good attendance throughout the meetings and for the attendance of other congregations and denominations. Our congregation enjoyed having Bro. Dennis and Sis. Donna and daughters with us for the two weeks. May God bless them in their labors for the Lord.

Sister Fern Ness, Cor.



## FATHER'S WILL

In the days of martyrdom a band of persecutors met a young woman on her way to a secret meeting. They demanded where she was going. Her apt reply was: "They are going to read my Father's will (The Bible), and I am on my way to hear it being read."

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. VIX

MARCH 15, 1981

NO. 6

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## LIFE'S PATHWAY

I would like to go back o'er life's pathway  
And retrace every footstep I've trod,  
And remove the rough spots where I stumbled  
Erase every vestige and clod.

I would like to go back o'er life's journey  
And call back each harsh word I've said,  
Recall every wrong deed or action  
Causing sorrow, or tears to be shed.

I would add many words left unspoken,  
And retract many words idly said  
And heal every heart, bruised or broken  
By replacing kind words in their stead.

Then, when at the end of life's journey  
I am asked my past story to tell,  
There'd be no rough spots on my pathway,  
No trace where I stumbled or fell.

Selected by Sister Martha Shaffer

## SERVING GOD AND CAESAR

My Country, 'tis of thee,  
Sweet land of liberty,  
Of thee, I sing:  
Land where my fathers died,  
Land of the Pilgrim's pride,  
From ev'ry mountain side  
Let freedom ring!

The poet expresses the thrill of American citizenship. We have a great privilege of living in this land, which God has blessed so abundantly. We enjoy much that is unknown in most of the world. Many are unappreciative of the blessings they have in living here, but we would not want to leave this land. We could search the wide world over yet never better ourselves.

We are thankful for our situation in this land. We have a citizenship, either by birth or naturalization, that is sought by many in this world. Many leave their native lands and families so they can be citizens here. As Christians, what are our duties as citizens of this land?

Christians have a dual citizenship. The people of this world must renounce their former allegiance in order to secure citizenship in another country. The Christian has his natural citizenship and a Heavenly citizenship. His citizenship, as a child of God, is in Heaven. Therefore his highest allegiance must be to the God, who has bought him. Since his highest service is due the God of Heaven, he becomes a pilgrim in his native land. As a pilgrim he must forego some of the normal activities of citizenship. By

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****MARCH 15, 1981**

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

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participating in the activities of worldly citizenship he might infringe upon the sacred duties of his Heavenly citizenship.

Some inconsistent activities for the Christian would include voting, swearing the civil oath, joining the military, jury duty, going to law and others. These are valid activities for those whose citizenship is in this country. But each of these activities does or could violate the Scriptural basis of our Heavenly citizenship. These activities are very highly promoted. All are urged to take part in these things. Although the world can not truly appreciate the Christian's reasons for not taking part, provisions have been made to allow him to avoid offensive activities. The Christian must be consistent in his whole life or his testimony will be of little value.

When the Christian does not participate in the various activities which seem so basic to many, he is often charged with being unsympathetic and unappreciative of the privileges that he has in this land. What then can the Christian do as a citizen that will not violate his Heavenly citizenship?

There was a problem in the early Church as it is today. Only at that time the Christians did not have the many privileges that we enjoy because the governments of that time were oppressive. Yet, the advice of the Apostles was to pray for their leaders. Today we can do no less. In fact our prayers, for God's blessings, for correct direction of our leaders, for good laws and for continued privileges may be the greatest service that any can yield for our country. To seek God's help for the land will bring better things than all the varied and frantic efforts of men.

Christians must be law-abiding citizens. Although all laws may not be good laws, so long as they do not conflict with God's expressed law, the Christian should be diligent in obeying them. At the present there are very few times when the Christian may openly and purposely disobey the law of the land. Provisions have been made for the Christian who will make his stand for the law of God.

The Christian's duty includes paying his taxes. Even Jesus paid his tribute money. The money of our land is very clearly marked as the legal tender of the land, therefore it should be rendered back to the government. Although we may not approve of all uses made of our tax money, we dare not be selective in what we pay. We do indirectly receive a benefit, at least in the eye of the world, from our taxes.

The best thing we can do for our country is to live a consistent Christian life. By so living we may direct the hearts and minds of others toward the God who is the source of all the blessings of this land.

Our father's God! to Thee  
Author of liberty,  
To thee we sing:  
Long may our land be bright  
With freedom's holy light,  
Protect us by Thy might,  
Great God, our King!

## **THE CHILDREN'S PAGE**

### **HE SAW THE SON OF GOD**

John 9:1-41

A long time ago a man was born blind. He couldn't see anything. As a child he never saw the blue sky, the sunshine, the stars at night, or the moon. He didn't know what a flower looked like, or a bird, or all the beautiful colors. What must it be like to be blind? Those of us who have good eyes and can see, cannot realize what blindness is. Even if we were to go blind we would know what it was to have seen — but this man had never seen.

Doctors could not help this man but he was a very fortunate person. One glad day Jesus passed his way. The disciples were along and they asked Jesus, "Who did sin, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither has this man sinned nor his parents."

Then Jesus spat on the ground and made clay and put the clay on the eyes of the blind man and said, "Go wash in the pool of Siloam." I don't know how he got to this pool of water. Maybe he had friends who helped him, but he did go and wash the clay from his eyes and he could see! Surely this had to be the happiest day of the man's life. Now he could see his mother and father and friends. How wonderful it was!

His neighbors just couldn't believe it. Some even thought he was another man that looked like him, but he said, "I am he."

It was the Sabbath day when the man received his sight and the Jews were very careful about what they did on the Sabbath. They asked him how he had received his sight and the man said, "A man that is called Jesus made clay and annointed my eyes and said, "Go to the pool of Siloam and wash: and I went and washed and I received sight."

This was just too much. They took the man to the Pharisees. Surely the rulers could understand and explain. The Pharisees asked him how he had received his sight and he told them the same thing. Then some said of Jesus, "This man is not of God because he keepeth not the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles?" Then they asked the man,

"What do you say of him who opened your eyes?" The man said, "He is a prophet."

The Jews were not convinced that the man had been born blind so they asked his parents, "Is this your son who was born blind? How does he now see?" They answered them, "We know this is our son and that he was born blind: but by what means he now sees, we know not. He is of age; ask him."

Then the Jews said to the man, "Give God the praise; we know that this man, who you say healed you, is a sinner." The man answered, "Whether he be a sinner, I know not: one thing I know, that whereas I was blind, now I see."

They kept asking the man how he was healed and the man said, "Will you also be his disciples?" This really upset them and they replied, "You are his disciple; but we are Moses' disciples." The man said, "Why herein is a marvelous thing that you don't know where is from. We know that God doesn't hear sinners; but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth His will, him He heareth. Since the world began it was not heard that any man opened the eyes of one born blind! If this man were not of God, he could do nothing."

The Jews would not believe in Jesus and they cast the man out of the synagogue and said, "You were altogether born in sins, and do you teach us?"

Jesus heard that they had cast him out and when He found the man, said unto him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" The man said, "Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on Him?" And Jesus said, "You hath both seen Him and it is He that talks with you." The man said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshipped Jesus.

The man who had been born blind received his sight. He could see the many beautiful and wonderful things around him but the greatest thing that he or anyone could see was Jesus. He saw the Son of God.

The man who had been born blind was made whole by the healing power of Jesus. He believed that Jesus was the Son of God. If we believe in Jesus and do what He has commanded us, someday, we too can see Him face to face.

Brother Rudy Cover



It is a noble and great thing to cover the blemishes and excuse the failings of a friend: to draw a curtain before his stains, and to display his perfection; to bury his weaknesses in silence, but to proclaim his virtues on the house-top. — South.

## DEALING EFFECTIVELY WITH SIN

Sin can be defined as anything that is contrary to the holy character of God. As God's people we need to be prepared to deal with the sin which doth so easily beset us.

The attitude of the present world is to soft pedal sin and make God a benevolent gentleman who will overlook and tolerate whatever the human mind wants to consider acceptable. That, however, is hardly an accurate view of the God of the Bible. God hates sin by His very nature. When we see Him in His holy character (through The Word) we can only stand in awe at the realization of His holiness. After God had revealed Himself to Job, Job said (in 42:5-6), "I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear; but now mine eye seeth thee. Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes."

The world's method of dealing with sin is to not deal with it at all. The world says, "Do not ascribe guilt to the conscience." But we need to say about our sin, the same thing that God says about it, that it is sin, and it must be dealt with.

The first step we need to take in dealing with our sinful condition is to acknowledge and confess. The sobering words of Rom. 3:23 should ring in our hearts. "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Not only our deeds but our very being is sinful outside of Jesus Christ. David says in Ps. 51:5, "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity." In Acts 19:18 after the name of the Lord Jesus had been magnified, "... many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds." Then we need to repent and believe. Acts 17:30, "... but now (God) commandeth all men everywhere to repent." And in Mark 16:16, "He that believeth and is baptised shall be saved."

But, even after we have been made free from the law of sin and death Paul says we will still find another law in our members, warring against the law of our (renewed) mind. (Rom. 7:27). Though the blood of Jesus Christ has made us free from the penalty of sin, we are still in its presence and thus need to deal with it. One of the evidences of the new birth is a changed attitude toward sin. When we have come to the end of ourselves, when we have come to the foot of the cross, when we see what price has been paid for sin and what sin has cost the Son of God, we then will see sin in a completely different perspective. The Bible uses strong words to explain what our attitude should be toward sin. Ps. 97:10, "Ye that love the Lord, hate evil." Ps. 11:5, "... the wicked and him that loveth violence his (God's) soul hateth." Prov. 6:16, "These six things (sins) doth the Lord hate." In Heb. 1:9 the Bible says of Christ, "Thou hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity."

If we have the mind of Christ, if we are people after God's own heart, we will hate sin. And that attitude will govern our decisions and relationships.

A very famous athletic coach said that if he could give his team anything he wanted to before a game, he would give them each, one pound of anger. Why? Because when people are angry they have a different view of the outcome of a situation or contest. You see, it is not enough for those athletes to love to win; they must also hate to lose. For a business person it is not enough to desire to succeed; he must also hate to fail. And in our spiritual lives it is not enough to love truth and right; but we must also hate sin and wrong. (Jude 23 describes this attitude.) This is the attitude which caused King David to (unknowingly) pronounce judgment on himself when the prophet Nathan confronted him with his sin (II Sam. 12:1-14), and caused Samuel to kill Agag after Saul had spared the wicked king's life, and this same attitude moves us to mortify the deeds of the body (Rom. 8-13), take up the cross daily and die to sin.

Let's consider, from the Bible, three methods of dealing with sin. Forsake — There are many terms used in the Bible to express this concept — abstain, put off, lay aside, depart, shun, remove thy foot, abhor, and eschew. Paul expressed it in II Cor. 6:14-18 saying that there can be no relationship between light and darkness. Finally in verse 17 he says "... come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing." Paul says in Rom. 8:12, "... we are debtors not to the flesh to live after the flesh." He is saying that we do not owe the flesh anything. It is at enmity against God and we need to reckon it so.

Though we have forsaken sin, we will still be tempted. We should realize that although temptation preceeds sin, it is not sin to be tempted. Jesus Christ was tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin. He was tempted in the wilderness in all three areas of temptation: the lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and pride of life. He was victorious in conquering all of the devil's approaches with the Word of God. We are no match for the devil, if we attempt to reason with him as Eve did, we will lose every time. Even Michael the archangel answered Satan with "... the Lord rebuke thee." This is why David says in Ps. 119:11, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart that I might not sin against thee." We need to commit portions of God's Word to our memory. God's Word in our heart will equip us to deal with the temptations as we encounter them. The great lesson for us here is that if we deal with the temptation we will never need to deal with sin.

In Joshua 7:21 Achan says, "When I SAW among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver,

and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I COVERED them, and TOOK them." We notice that Achan saw, coveted and took. His eye say it, (that probably could not have been helped). His heart wanted it, (that was the temptation). He took it, (that was the sin). If Achan had dealt with the temptation, the sin would never have needed to have been dealt with. You can read the far reaching effects of this sin in Joshua 7 and 8. "But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." James 1:14-15.

Flee — God has given us this admonition because He knows that there are some things which we are unable to stand against, and He has warned us so we do not need to fall to these sins. I Cor. 6:18 says, "Flee fornication." God does not tell us to stand against fornication, He says to flee. When Joseph was enticed by his master's wife, he labeled the situation which it was, SIN. Joseph said in Gen. 39:9, "How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?" Thus he dealt with the temptation. How? By fleeing. The Bible message on this subject is clear, no ifs, ands, or buts, only a two word sentence, flee fornication. II Tim. 2:22, "Flee also youthful lusts."

I Cor. 10:14 tells us to "flee from idolatry." Idolatry is a temptation to forget God, and Paul says flee anything that comes between us and our Heavenly Father. Also in I Tim. 6:9-11 Paul tells Timothy to flee materialism and the love of money.

Stand — Eph. 6:10 13, "Finally... and having done all to stand." Nehemiah says in 6:11, "Should such a man as I flee?" All of us realize, as we confront the daily battles of life, that there are some situations and sins that we need to meet headon and then simply stand on the Word of Truth. Paul goes on in Eph. 6 and gives us a complete catalog of the whole armour of God, by which we can stand. And, of course, we can stand confidently knowing that God is faithful and will not suffer us to be tempted above that we are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape that we may be able to bear it. (I Cor. 10:13)

Let's consider briefly some of the results of failure to deal with sin. We remember how Samuel told Saul to utterly destroy the Amalekites. Saul disobeyed and spared King Agag whom Samuel later slew. Although the Bible does not particularly say it, Saul may have spared the entire royal family. Because when we get to the third chapter of the book of Esther, we find "this wicked Haman" the "Agagite." The man who plotted the destruction of God's people, the Jews, was possibly a descendant of Agag's family, whom God had commanded to be utterly destroyed. This is all a picture of our lives, when the flesh is not crucified, it will be there demanding its own way and working against the spirit.

Judges 16:21 says of Samson, "But the Philistines took him, and PUT OUT HIS EYES, and brought him down to Gaza, and BOUND HIM with fetters of brass; and he did GRIND in the prison house." We can notice here how sin progressively ruins us. First it blinds, then it binds, and finally it grinds. The Devil is a promising employer, a hard taskmaster, and his wages haven't changed in six thousand years — death. Sin breaks our communion with God and finally results in eternal separation from God.

Finally we come to the best part of the subject of dealing with sin. That is that God has already dealt with it. Realizing our lost condition and realizing our utter inability and helplessness, God has in His love, mercy and grace, dealt with the sin problem through His son, Jesus Christ. In II Cor. 5:18 we read that God has "reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ." That is, through and by the finished work of Christ on Calvary, we can have a restored relationship with God. Christ has also redeemed us, that is, He has paid the price of our redemption, bought us back to God with His pure blood and rose again for our justification. Therefore we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, (Rom. 5:1) through whom also we have forgiveness. (Eph. 1:7)

The most profound verse in all the Bible is II Cor. 5:21, "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." What does this mean to us? It means that God made Jesus Christ who knew no sin, to be sin for us, so that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him. Praise His name!

Brother Frank L. Reed  
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## CHOOSE THIS DAY

by David Kaucher

If you were to stop long enough to consider the problems the world has today you may begin to wonder where it's all going to end. We see that there is unrest and uncertainty in the minds of people in every nation of the world. We find in different parts of the world people being kept from fighting only by a military truce team. We find all kinds of corruption in government. The constant threat of nuclear war. Mounting financial problems, and on top of all this numerous natural disasters.

In the midst of all these problems people are feeling frustrated. If you were to ask them how God fits into all of this they would be quick to tell you something like this. God is dead. I don't believe in God. If there is a God He's not concerned about me. In our modern age with all our knowledge, who needs God?

In spite of all this our nation from its founding days has developed until it has become the greatest nation in the world. Today the clouds of uncertainty are hanging over America. Why? The Bible in Romans 2:4 says, "Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?" Many people today don't care what God thinks. Consequently they don't realize that He is not punishing us because He is patiently waiting for us to repent of our sin. He loves us and is being kind that we might realize our hopeless condition and turn back to Him.

There is a true story in the Bible of a city which can be used as a comparison to America today. This city is mentioned in the Old Testament book of Jonah. In Jonah 1:2-3 it says, "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me. But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the Lord."

The city of Nineveh was so wicked that God could no longer stand the way they were living. It was a great city and they were living in complete disregard for God. Even though they were living like this God decided to warn them before He would punish them. So it was that God spoke to Jonah and said he was to go to Nineveh and take this message of warning to them.

In this day we find America completely disregarding God and living in wickedness. God is speaking to the hearts of Christians across America to cry out against our wickedness. But many of us who claim to be children of God are just like Jonah. We tell God that we will do anything He asks us to do and then when He wants us to do something we turn and run the other way. We tell God to find someone else and we make all kind of excuses for not wanting to obey. However we find that God wanted Jonah to do the job and after spending three days and three nights in the belly of the whale Jonah was ready to do what God wanted. Many times we find that God has to put things in our way or bring hard times upon us to get us to do what He wants. In Jonah 3:1-3 we find the following words, "And the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the second time saying, Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee. So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord."

When God came to Jonah the second time He again told him to go to Nineveh and preach what He told him to preach. This time he went and the message from God was, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown." The message to America today would be

somewhat the same. Repent! Repent! Repent! or America shall be overthrown! God told Jonah to preach and I believe, although it's not recorded in the Bible, that Jonah named some of the sins of Nineveh which displeased God in his preaching.

In the book of Galatians we find a list of things which God hates and I believe that Nineveh was guilty of every one just as America is today. I repeat, I believe that Jonah named the sins that Nineveh was guilty of along with God's message that they would be overthrown. I believe that God would have America take notice that she is guilty of these same sins. In Galatians 5:19 it says, "Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these," and then it goes on to name seventeen different things that God calls sin. Then in verse twenty one it says, "That they which do such things shall not inherit the Kingdom of God." It is very plainly stated here that those who continue to sin and don't repent and accept Christ for salvation shall be punished with eternal damnation.

Now let's look at this list of things which God will not let go unpunished. They are as follows:

**ADULTERY** — The voluntary indulgence in illicit sex by married people. Many married men all over America are having an affair with someone else's wife and many women are likewise untrue to their husbands. Wife swapping clubs are becoming more and more popular. Married couples get together to have parties where they share sex relations with each other as a group. The willful involvement in sex outside of marriage.

**FORNICATION** — Illicit sex by unmarried people. Sex before marriage is forbidden in the Bible. Yet statistics show that very few girls are virgins by the time they get married. In today's society most young people thing it's an old fashioned idea to refrain from intercourse when dating.

**UNCLEANNESS** — Not cleanly, filthy, and unchaste. It is the in thing to wear dungarees with patches on. To go without a bath most of the time and have unkempt hair. People's minds are constantly filled with dirty thoughts and their conversations prove it. Men's minds are constantly dwelling on what they would like to do to every nice looking woman they meet.

**LASCIVIOUSNESS** — The tendency to produce lewd emotions. The motion picture industry is producing filthy films one right after another and people by the thousands are going to theaters and drive-ins to see them. The pornographic literature being produced and sold in America today is a big and highly profitable business for those producing it. All these things are geared to produce lewd emotions in the minds of those who look at it.

**IDOLATRY** — The excessive love or worship of anything. This is another sin which is very prevalent. People are sacrificing their

lives for many things which they think they just must have. To love anything in this world more than God is idolatry. To devote most of your time to getting ahead in this world and not preparing yourself to meet God at the end of life is the same as telling God that you love this world more than Him.

**WITCHCRAFT** — The practice of black magic or sorcery. This is a practice which has not been very active for many years but in the last few years has become widespread. Because of the increasing complexity of life many people are finding life empty and meaningless. So they are turning to the black arts and even openly worshipping the devil.

**HATRED** — Strong dislike for someone with intentions to harm them. Hate is everywhere because our society is rejecting the giver of love. Hate expresses itself in many ways in today's society. One race looks down on the other. One country against another and so forth. The Bible says if a man hates his brother he is a murderer.

**VARIANCE** — The character of being changeable. This is when a person treats you very nice when he is talking to you and then a little later he meets someone else and runs you down to that person or maybe even lies about you. He is two faced and changes his mind whenever he feels it is to his advantage.

**EMULATION** — The ambition to do as good or better than others. This is a selfish ambition. A desire to never let anyone get ahead of you. If someone has something nice then you must have one just as nice and if possible a better one. Some people are so bothered with this ambition that they actually get angry if someone gets ahead of them.

**WRATH** — This word means to get so angry that you get violent. The temperament of many people is so touchy that the slightest aggravation causes them to become violent. When someone really bothers them they lose all control of themselves. Many people today are behind prison bars because in a violent fit of temper they attacked someone or even killed them.

**STRIFE** — The desire to quarrel or fight. A person like this often walks around with a chip on his shoulder just waiting for someone to knock it off. They are constantly looking for something to disagree with just for the sake of getting into an argument. These people often try to get others in trouble to push themselves ahead.

**SEDITION** — Discontentment with government or resistance to lawful authority. This is something that is found in almost every country in the world today. Everyone can tell you how they would run the government if they were in charge of things. Many people do more than just vent their feelings. They also take part in demonstrations and protests to have their ideas heard. Others take an active part in subversive activities and still others who refuse to

respect the law officer who is out there to protect them as well as others.

**HERESY** — Opposition to accepted religious truth tending to promote division. This word is connected with problems in the church. It is another thing that is widespread in today's world. Bible teachings which were strongly endorsed by the church in past years are now being claimed irrelevant and outdated. Many false doctrines are being promoted in this day which are portrayed to be truth. All these things tend to promote division. It's no wonder there are so many splits in the church and that even fundamental churches are divided against themselves.

**ENVYING** — Discontentment at the good fortune of another. Someone gets a good job or they buy a new home just like you always wanted. Everything seems to go their way and they never appear to have any problems. You think to yourself, if only things would go like that for me. This is what it means to envy. A better word for envy would be jealousy.

**MURDER** — To kill another person purposely. Simply to take someone's life with the intention of doing just that. Life today is not considered valuable in the eyes of many. When someone does something to a person or someone gets in the way when something wrong is being done it is a simple matter to kill them. Many people who commit such a crime don't even have any regrets for having done it.

**DRUNKENNESS** — Constantly drinking or intoxicated. One of the favorite past times of society today is to be drinking alcoholic beverages whenever they can get ahold of them. It is thought improper to entertain guests in the home without serving something to drink. America today has a staggering number of people who are addicted to alcohol and are constantly drunk.

**REVELING** — To be festive, loud, or noisy. Much of our time in the evening hours is spent in party making and having a good time. At these parties often there is loud music, dancing, drinking, and much joking and laughing. Reveling is to be wasting our time in merry making instead of doing things which are constructive and helpful to others.

To be continued



## **DRUNKEN BOATMEN**

Two men under the influence of liquor, came one night to where their boat was tied, desiring to return home. So they entered it and began to row. They pulled away all night, wondering why they never reached the other side of the bay. When morning dawned, behold, they found that they had never loosened their boat from the shore.

## NEWS ITEMS

### A SERVICE TO THE BROTHERHOOD

I am offering a free service to the Brotherhood.

I have a copy of every Bible Monitor ever published.

If any Bible Monitor reader wishes to know the dates of marriages, Church Dedications, dates of officials installed into office, obituaries or any other such information that has been published in the Bible Monitor over the years of its existence, I would be happy to look it up and reply to your inquiries.

It is needful that I be given the year or approximate year the event or occasion took place.

Brother Paul R. Myers

Box 117, Greentown, Ohio 44630

### QUINTER, KANSAS

The Lord willing, the Quinter Congregation will hold their Spring meetings April 11 and 12, followed by District Meeting April 13. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy these meetings with us. We ask an interest in your prayers here at this place.

In January we accepted one into our congregation by baptism. May we all pray for her, and may God richly bless her.

Sister Judy Foster, Cor.

### PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

The Pleasant Ridge Congregation, the Lord willing, plans for the Lovefeast Service, March 28 the last week-end of our revival.

Services begin at 11 o'clock Saturday morning, 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon and Lovefeast Service Saturday evening. Also services Sunday.

Come and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Ruth Kleinhen, Cor.

## "MYSELF"

I have to live with myself, and so I want to be fit for myself to know. I want to be able, as the days go by, always to look myself straight in the eye.

I don't want to stand with the setting sun and hate myself for things I've done. I don't want to keep on a closet shelf a lot of secrets about myself and fool myself as I come and go into thinking that nobody else will know the kind of person I really am. I don't want to dress myself up in shame. I want to go out with my head erect. I want to deserve all people's respect.

Here in the struggle, for fame and wealth, I want to be able to like myself. I don't want to think as I come and go that I'm bluster and buff and empty show. I never can hide myself from me. I see what others may never see. I know what others may never know.

I never can fool myself, and so whatever happens I want to be self-respecting and to have a clear conscience.

Selected by Sister Ruby Sowers

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR APRIL

April 5 — Stephen's Defense - Acts 7:1-50.

April 12 — "Lay Not This Sin to Their Charge" - Acts 7:51-60.

April 19 — The RESURRECTION - John 20:1-31.

April 26 — The Gospel Preached in Samaria; The Sorcerer - Acts 8:1-25.

### QUESTIONS:

- (1) Who were the patriarchs who sold Joseph into Egypt? - Acts 7:9; Gen. 37:4.
- (2) Who was the prophet that the Lord raised up that was like Moses? - Acts 7:37.
- (3) How was Stephen, at the time of his death, like Jesus? - Acts 7:60; Luke 23:34.
- (4) Who were first to see the empty tomb after Jesus had risen? Matt. 28:1; Mark 16:1; Luke 24:1; John 20:1.
- (5) Because Thomas did not believe till he had seen, what did Jesus say about them who had not seen and yet have believed? - John 20:29.
- (6) What power was given to Philip, that caused the people who heard him, to believe in Christ? - Acts 8:6, 7.
- (7) How did those who were baptized of Philip receive the Holy Ghost? Acts 8:14-17.
- (8) What sin did Simon, the sorcerer, commit concerning the Holy Spirit? - Acts 8:18-20.



## IN A MOMENT

The veil that conceals the other world is only our embodied existence, and though our body is fearfully and wonderfully made it is but frail mortality. The puncture of a thorn, the sting of an insect, a mite of poison, or a tiny spot, may cause it to fall in death. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, in the throb of a pulse, we may start into disembodied spirits, glide into the company of spirits, and pass into the knowledge of the other world.

## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR APRIL, 1981

### DEATH, RESURRECTION, DECEIT

Memory Verse: I John 3:14

We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.

Wed. 1 - I Pet. 4:1-19

Thur. 2 - I John 3:1-24

Fri. 3 - I John 5:1-21

Sat. 4 - Jude 1-25

Memory Verse: Rev. 1:18

I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

Sun. 5 - Rev. 1:1-20

Mon. 6 - Rev. 2:1-17

Tues. 7 - Rev. 2:18-29

Wed. 8 - Rev. 3:1-22

Thur. 9 - Rev. 6:1-17

Fri. 10 - Rev. 9:1-21

Sat. 11 - Rev. 11:1-19

Memory Verse: Rev. 12:11

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

Sun. 12 - Matt. 21:1-17

Mon. 13 - Rev. 12:1-17

Tues. 14 - Rev. 13:1-18

Wed. 15 - Rev. 14:1-20

Thur. 16 - Rev. 18:1-24

Fri. 17 - Rev. 20:1-15

Sat. 18 - Rev. 21:1-27

Memory Verse: John 11:25 & 26

Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were

dead, yet shall he live; And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believeth thou this?

Sun. 19 - John 11:21-44

Mon. 20 - Gen. 27:1-29

Tues. 21 - Gen. 27:30-41

Wed. 22 - Gen. 31:1-16

Thur. 23 - Gen. 31:17-35

Fri. 24 - Gen. 31:36-55

Sat. 25 - Gen. 34:1-31

Memory Verse: Deut. 11:16

Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them;

Sun. 26 - Ex. 8:1-32

Mon. 27 - Lev. 6:1-7

Tues. 28 - Deut. 11:1-17

Wed. 29 - Deut. 11:18-32

Thur. 30 - I Sam. 19:1-24

Memory Verses: Rev. 14:13

And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.

Rev. 21:4

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things have passed away.

Paul R. Myers  
Box 117  
Greentown, OH 44630

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

APRIL 1, 1981

NO. 7

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## DEFINITION OF A CHRISTIAN

He has a mind, and he knows it.

He has a will and shows it.

He sees his way and goes it.

He draws a line and toes it.

He has a chance and takes it.

A friendly hand and shakes it.

A rule and never breaks it.

If there's no time, he makes it.

He loves the truth, stands by it

Never, ever tries to shy it,

Whoever may deny it

Openly defy it.

He hears a lie and slays it.

He owes a debt and pays it.

He knows the game and plays it.

He sees the path Christ trod

And grips the hand of God.

- Author unknown

Selected by Sister Ruby Sowers

## TAKE TIME

Life is very fast paced. There is never enough time to do all that we want to do. A year passes so quickly. It seems that we hardly have time to learn to write the correct year until it is time to write the next. As children we thought it much too long from one birthday until the next. Now, birthdays come much too quickly.

Time passes at the same speed for all. All are rushed to a certain extent. Even Christians are not immune from the rush of time. There are duties to be done. There are schedules to be met. The Christian must be alert concerning his worldly affairs but he must have a greater concern for his Spiritual life.

The Christian may be pressed by the rush of time like his neighbors, but he has the advantage of having a proper perspective. He knows that time is temporal. Eternity awaits all mankind but only an eternity spent with God truly deserves men's attention and aspiration. An eternity spent with Satan and his angels in an unpleasant and uninviting prospect, that Satan seeks to conceal from his deluded followers.

With time in perspective, the Christian can see the futility of investing his best efforts in that which will last only a short time. He must be building this life so he is actually building for eternity. His concern for the future will establish his priorities. Eternity should be so important to him that the affairs of this life become secondary. Therefore he must take time, even when busy, to get his Spiritual life in order.

When we get caught up in the routines and busyness of life we lose our spiritual fervor. The change is almost imperceptible. Less time is spent in prayer, Bible reading and study and at the family

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## THE BIBLE MONITOR

## APRIL 1, 1981

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

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altar. These activities begin to take a secondary place to the activities associated with our business and work. As these good activities decline our attitudes begin to change. The past joys and loves of the Christian life become cold and formal. As the attitude declines, it becomes easier to do and think those things unpleasing to God. Being wrapped up in the world's activities, we find ourselves living and thinking like the world.

When that soul-starving condition comes upon us, we are in a dangerous place. It is imperative that we awaken to our true condition. If we fail to realize the devil's handiwork in our lives, we will end up in his service and under his dominion. Even though our outward appearance may not change, even though others may not see a great change within us, still the dullness in our Spiritual lives will be evident to us, if we are willing to admit it. If we do not recognize our true condition we will find ourselves speeding toward an eternity unlike what we had hoped for.

When this sad condition comes upon us, it is time to awake and to get away from the world's activities. We must not only take time away from the activities that are pulling us away from God, we must also take time to get closer to God. Satan keeps us so busy that we do not have time to reflect on the direction of our lives. That is the very time when we must take time to ponder the course of our present life and its future consequences. We must think about our relationship with our God. This process can not be hurried but must be allowed to search every facet of our lives. We must be truthful. We dare not be easy on ourselves. We dare not excuse ourselves. Our excuses here will not excuse us in the judgment. We must take time to reprove ourselves, to renew our vows and to progress toward Heaven.

We dare not go to the extreme of examining ourselves and finding ourselves so unworthy that we carry a load of blame that we are unwilling to leave with the Lord. Our sins must be dealt with, but once they are, they must be put behind us, so we can go forward. When we take time to get our lives right with God, we must not waste that time by remaining in the past. We must live in the present in a way that will prepare us for the future.

It may seem unrealistic to take time in the midst of our fleeting hours, yet the time taken to meditate upon our lives and our relationship with God will prove to be time well spent, for it will help us to better use our time here and to gain Heaven. We can spend our time here in no better way than in serving the Lord. We can spend eternity in no better way than in being with Him in Glory.

Are you too busy? Is your life being deviously attracted to Satan's service? If so, take time, think, pray and study.

## **SALVATION: A TWO SIDED AFFAIR**

In Ephesians 2:8-9 we read, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

There are those who would make this portion of scripture mean that man has absolutely no part in his salvation. The extreme of this teaching would have us believe that man is born destined for Heaven or Hell, with no choice in the matter. The more moderate teaching of this type would concede that man has to accept the offer of salvation but then is "eternally secure."

We feel both of these positions fall short of teaching the whole truth of scripture. The quoted verses in Ephesians do, indeed, teach that salvation is through the grace of God and that we have no part in this. God reached down to man through Jesus Christ, who shed his blood for the remission of our sins. Man can never reach up to God for THE GIFT of salvation. God even gives us our saving faith. God does ALL of the ACTIVE WORKS of salvation. Our part in salvation is entirely passive. It is NOT our works that God accepts, for they are as filthy rags. But it is the WORKS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT that we allow to complete the works of salvation within us.

We feel it is important that we recognize that salvation IS NOT a once and done affair. We are saved (initial salvation), we are being saved (progressive salvation), and we will be saved (final salvation or glorification). When we are converted or born again by the Spirit of God all of our PAST sins have been blotted out. If we sin after this experience those sins must be confessed in order to be forgiven. Romans 3:25 "Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of SINS THAT ARE PAST, through the forbearance of God;" If we continue in unconfessed sin we are in danger of departing from the faith and losing our salvation. Colossians 1:22-23, "In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprouvable in his sight: IF YE CONTINUE IN THE FAITH grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof, I Paul am made a minister;"

Everyone needs the gift of salvation. Romans 3:23, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." In fact, everyone has been potentially saved. When Jesus Christ died on the cross this act declared every sin paid for both past, present, and future. But it is only when an individual accepts this substitutionary act as a

reality for his own life that the blood is applied and sins forgiven.

There is a need to ASK FOR this redemption. Romans 10:13, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." While we believe that immersion is the only baptism recognized by God. And that it is not our place to say who is saved and who is not, we will merely share what the word of God says in this area. Mark 16:16, "He that believeth and is baptised shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Acts 22:16, "And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptised, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord." While we do not equate salvation with baptism, it is a scriptural truth that NO ONE was saved in the entire New Testament after the death of Christ who DID NOT receive baptism. "Let each man be satisfied in his own mind."

We have need to walk in the truth of God's word in order to remain saved. I Timothy 4:16 "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee."

In summary, salvation is a wonderful gift from God which we can not earn by OUR works. We must be obedient to the leading of the Holy Spirit that convicts, convinces, and confirms. God's Holy Word, the Bible, contains the truths which the Holy Spirit can confirm.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch Street  
Palmyra, Pa. 17078

## JUST ONE CHANCE

Acts 8:26-40

If you had just one chance to tell someone about Jesus, what would you say? Philip was sent by the Lord to the eunuch and he had only one chance to talk to him. Verse 35 says, "Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus." The eunuch had been reading Isaiah 53, so he was not an ignorant man, but he lacked understanding. He was acquainted with the Word and his heart was ready for Philip to guide him to the truth. What would you have told the eunuch?

If you were talking to a hippie, obviously in need of a bath, would you recommend that he bathe, or would you tell him about Jesus who can clean him up from the inside out? How would you tell a woman of the street about Christ? She would not have hope for a new life, so just telling her to quit sinning would not be enough. Dropping her sinful ways would only leave a vacuum which would

soon fill with something else possibly worse. She needs to know that Jesus can save her and make her life worthwhile with her purposes and goals. He will not leave a vacuum where sin can creep back in.

You might meet a man on skid row or a prisoner on death row. What would you say to such a person who knows little or nothing about Christ and salvation? Philip was not allowed to hang around and talk to the eunuch more than once — he had to do it right the first time. This eunuch had read the Scriptures and was ready for further teaching. A sinner always needs some basic instruction — Do you know how to give it?

We hear alot about what sin does to us; now we need to hear (and tell) what Christ, the Victor, can do for us. Sin drags us down; Christ lifts us up. Sin keeps us away from God; Christ brings us close to God. Sin leaves us empty and miserable; Christ fills our hearts with peace, joy and comfort. The wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ. The list can go on and on, for a life of sin is the opposite of a Spirit-filled life in Christ.

The approach you use in witnessing of Christ's love and mercy must vary somewhat according to the heart-condition of the unbeliever. You will not always be able in one session to lead a person to Jesus, but you should be able to lay some groundwork. Even though you see a person only once, it pays to share Christ in some way and then trust the Lord to provide the remaining help needed. Someone else may have the joy of sharing and sowing the seed.

Paul said, "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase." II Cor. 3:6. You may encounter an unbeliever only once, but whatever seed you can sow will help insure a harvest. You can't expect a harvest if you fail to plant the seed. God has promised that His Word will not return void and certainly it will not. The final result is in God's hand, so do your part and leave the rest to Him.

In this country where Bibles are so plentiful and there are no penalties for owning one or more, we often wrongfully assume that everyone has one, and that he or she has read it. We have had neighbors and acquaintances who wouldn't have a thing to do with God or a Bible, without ever knowing what either one means. The Jewish people have the Hebrew or Old Testament Scriptures, but don't read them. These are just examples. It is important to share Christ when and where you can and be sure you live by His Word. You may be the only Bible your neighbor ever reads and your life will be your only chance to tell Him of Christ, so be careful. A poor example will not bring a good harvest.

"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall

doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Psalms 126:6. To go requires effort; weeping indicates concern. It is not always convenient to share God's Word and you may think "I'm just too busy," but what if you never get another chance? Sowing is essential and usually our work can wait. It takes time to be concerned, to be sensitive to another's need. Philip apparently was quite a distance from the eunuch, but when the Lord directed, he went. Waiting a day or two would have been too long.

One opportunity to tell about Jesus may not seem like enough, but when the Lord directs, it is enough. If you had just one chance to learn of Christ, you would want to be told, so go and take God's Word with you. Be concerned enough to do your part in telling the lost of Christ. Then when the harvest comes, you too, can rejoice. Whether there be one chance or many, now is the time to witness.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## **THE CHILDREN'S PAGE**

### **"LAZARETH, COME FORTH"**

John 11:1-44

In the little town of Bethany lived a man, named Lazarus, with his sisters, Martha and Mary. This was a family that Jesus loved and He often stayed in their home. They knew Jesus and His miracles and how He could heal all diseases. One day Lazarus became sick. He must have been very sick because his sisters sent for Jesus. When Jesus heard that Lazarus was sick, He stayed two more days where He was. He then said to His disciples, "Let us go into Judea again." Jesus' disciples were concerned because in Judea the Jews wanted to kill Jesus. Jesus said, "Our friend, Lazarus, sleeps; but I go that I may awake him out of sleep." The disciples said, "Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well." Then Jesus said unto them, "Lazarus is dead."

When Jesus arrived near Bethany, Lazarus had been buried four days. Many of the Jews came to comfort Martha and Mary. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet Him, but Mary stayed in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died, but I know, that even now, whatsoever you will ask of God, God will give it thee."

Jesus said to her, "Thy brother shall rise again."

Martha said, "I know he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

Jesus said unto her, "I am the resurrection, and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and

whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?"

She said unto Him, "Yea Lord, I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world." Then Martha went to Mary and said, "The Master is come and calleth for thee." When Mary heard that, she arose quietly and came unto Jesus.

Jesus was near the cemetery where Lazarus was buried. He had not come to Bethany yet but was in the place that Martha met Him. When Mary started to go to Jesus the Jews which were in the house followed her and said, "She goes unto the grave to weep there."

When Mary came to Jesus, she fell down at His feet and said, "Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died." Mary was weeping and the Jews which came with her were weeping. Lazarus was one whom they all loved and now he was dead. When Jesus saw all of them so sorrowful He said, "Where have you laid him?" and they say, "Lord, come and see." And Jesus wept. When the Jews saw Jesus weeping they said, "Behold, how He loved him! Could not this man who opened the eyes of the blind, have caused that even this man should not have died?"

Jesus came to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, good-practical Martha, said, "Lord by this time he stinketh for he has been dead four days."

Jesus said unto her, "Said I not unto thee, that if you would believe, that you would see the glory of God."

They took away the stone and Jesus prayed to His Heavenly Father, "Father, I thank thee that thou hadst heard me. And I know that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stood by I said it, that they may believe that Thou hadst sent me."

Then Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!" And Lazarus did. He was bound hand and foot with graveclothes and there was a napkin about his face. Jesus said, "Loose him and let him go."

Can you imagine how happy Martha and Mary were. Lazarus was alive again! He wasn't sick but well and strong. Jesus could bring a person who had been dead four days, back to life. Jesus can bring one back to life who had been dead a thousand years — He is the resurrection and the life. He can make you live again!

Brother Rudy Cover



Some say, "the Church." Some say, "my Church." What do you say?

Selected by Sister Ruthanna Sauerwein

## CHOOSE THIS DAY

By David Kaucher

Continued from March 15, 1981 Issue

As we look at this list of things and realize more fully what they mean we come to know that every last one of us has room to improve. I would like to again sound a warning. The Word of God says that, "They which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." If America as a nation refuses to repent of these sins and give them up God will deal with America as he did with nations in the past that turned against Him.

In turning back to the account in the Bible about Nineveh we find that they received God's warning that they would be destroyed and repented of their sins. God saw that they were sorry for having turned their back on Him and withdrew His promise to destroy them. We find that a decree was made by the king of that city that everyone shall repent. It is still not too late for America to be spared from the wrath of God. If the leaders of our nation would openly recognize God and repent. If they would call for the people of our nation to repent and we would again worship God, I believe God would spare our nation, save it from judgment, and continue to bless it.

When a nation or an individual makes a promise to God He expects them to keep that promise. When the Lord is on our side we can depend on Him to bring us through troublesome times to victory. He will bless and prosper a nation that depends on Him. In Nahum 1:7 it says, "The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him."

The city of Nineveh repented at Jonah's warning but didn't remain faithful to God. Just one hundred and fifty years later God had to send another prophet to Nineveh. This time God did not give them a chance to repent but said that He would completely destroy them. Nahum said in chapter 1 verse 8 "But with an over-running flood he will make an utter end of their place thereof, and darkness shall pursue his enemies." Many people in America have committed their lives to God at one time or another but have not remained faithful to Him. If they continue in this condition eventually God will utterly destroy them.

There is another observation should be made in connection with this story from the Bible. There are many that say these stories in the Bible are not true and they have been put there to teach us a spiritual lesson. In the case of this story we can refer to secular history and find that Napoleon, during the time when he was out to conquer the world, encamped his army one night near

the spot where the city of Nineveh once stood. The destruction of Nineveh which is spoken of in the Bible was so complete that Napoleon never realized that a city once stood there. Yes, the judgment of God is sure, certain, and complete. Those who refuse to serve Him will perish.

It may appear to you from reading this that God is cruel or that He is up there looking down on people trying to domineer their lives. This is not so. In Ezekiel 33:11 these words appear, "As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn ye, turn ye, from your evil ways; for why will you die." Here God says that He doesn't delight in seeing people suffer, but that He has no choice other than judgment if they continue in their wickedness. What He does delight in is to see people turn from their wickedness so that He might give them eternal life. Then He actually makes a plea that you turn away from your sinning and asks you why you will perish when you can have eternal life. That is also my question. Why continue to practice those things which you know are sin when living in Hell for eternity is the result? Repent and accept Christ today and receive the gift of eternity in Heaven.

### **DEEPER THAN THE STAIN HAS GONE**

"Dark the sin that soiled man's nature,  
Long the distance that he fell;  
Far removed from hope and heaven,  
Near to deep despairing hell;  
But there was a fountain opened,  
And the blood of God's own Son,  
Purifies the soul and reaches,  
Deeper than the stain has gone."

"Conscience of that deep pollution,  
Sinners wander in the night;  
Even though the Shepherd's calling,  
Still they fear to face the light.  
Thus the precious consolation,  
That should melt the heart of stone;  
This sweet balm of Gilead reaches,  
Deeper than the stain has gone."

"All unworthy, we who've wandered,  
Where our eyes were wet with tears;  
And we think of love that sought us,  
Through the dreary wasted years;  
Now we walk the holy highway,  
With the pure in heart along,

Because Calvary's flow thus reaches,  
Deeper than the stain has gone."

"When with holy throngs we're standing,  
In the presence of the King;  
And our souls are lost in wonder,  
As the white-robed choirs sing;  
Then we'll praise the name of Jesus,  
With the millions 'round the throne;  
Praise Him for the grace that reaches,  
Deeper than the stain has gone."

Selected by Sister Ruby Smootz

## A FEW THOUGHTS ON AMERICA

Our beloved United States was settled as a place for freedom of worship. We still have our freedom but I am afraid we may be like the Israelites and have allowed false gods to slip in.

Our first Presidents were men who felt the need of God's help and offered many prayers asking for His wisdom and guidance. George Washington is often spoken about concerning the times he went off by himself, when he was in the army and as President, beseeching God to give him help and wisdom.

The following article was found in the books of Brother Vern Hostetler after his death and I feel it will give us one of the reasons America grew and prospered. Today luxury has taken over and we as a nation do not feel the need of getting down on our knees before God and asking for His help and wisdom.

Satan has used education to make people feel self-sufficient, but God tells us "Man's wisdom is God's foolishness." We know Christ will return and how will we feel when He asks if we had time to do His work or only thought of our own desires for worldly fame and wisdom.

May God's word be our education and may we be aware of the signs of His return.

## DESTINY OF THE UNITED STATES

Originally published by Wesley Bradshaw. Copied from a reprint in the National Tribune, Vol. 4, No. 12, December, 1880.

The last time I ever saw Anthony Sherman was on the Fourth of July 1859, in Independence Square. But though so old, his dimming eyes rekindled as he gazed upon Independence Hall, which he came to visit once more. He was then ninety-nine years old, and becoming very feeble.

"Let us go into the Hall," he said. "I want to tell you an incident of

Washington's life — one which no one alive knows of except myself; and, if you live you will before long, see it verified."

"From the opening of the Revolution we experienced all phases of fortune, now good and now ill, one time victorious and another conquered. The darkest period we had, I think, was when Washington, after several reverses, retreated to Valley Forge where he resolved to pass the winter of 1777. Ah! I have often seen our dear commander's care-worn cheeks, as he would be conversing with a confidential officer about the condition of his poor soldiers. You have doubtless heard the story of Washington's going to the thicket to pray. Well, it was not only true, but he used often to pray in secret for aid and comfort from God, the interposition of whose Divine Providence brought us safely through the darkest days of tribulation.

"One day, I remember well, the chilly winds whistled through the leafless trees, though the sky was cloudless and the sun shone brightly, he remained in his quarters nearly all the afternoon alone. When he came out I noticed that his face was a shade paler than usual and there seemed to be something on his mind of more than ordinary importance. Returning just after dusk, he dispatched an orderly to the quarters of the officer I mentioned who was presently in attendance. After a preliminary conversation of about half an hour, Washington, gazing upon his companion with that strange look of dignity which he alone could command, said to the latter:

"I do not know whether it is owing to the anxiety of my mind, or what, but this afternoon, as I was sitting at this table engaged in preparing a dispatch, something seemed to disturb me. Looking up, I beheld standing opposite me a singularly beautiful female. So astonished was I, for I had given strict orders not to be disturbed, that it was some moments before I found language to inquire the cause of her presence. A second, a third, and even a fourth time did I repeat my question, but received no answer from my mysterious visitor except a slight raising of her eyes.

"Presently I heard a voice saying, 'Son of the Republic, look and learn,' while at the same time my visitor extended her arm eastwardly. I now beheld a heavy white vapor at some distance rising fold upon fold. This gradually dissipated and I looked upon a strange scene. Before me lay spread out in one vast plain all the countries of the world — Europe, Asia, Africa and America. I say rolling and tossing between Europe and America the billows of the Atlantic, and between Asia and America lay the Pacific. 'Son of the Republic,' said the

same mysterious voice as before, 'look and learn.' At that moment I beheld a dark, shadowy being, like an angel, standing, or rather floating in mid-air, between Europe and America. Dipping water out of the ocean in the hollow of each hand, he sprinkled some upon America with his right hand, while with his left hand he cast some on Europe. Immediately a cloud raised from these countries, and joined in mid-ocean. For a while it remained stationary and then moved slowly westward, until it enveloped America in its murky folds. Sharp flashes of lightning gleamed through it at intervals, and I heard the smothered groans and cries of the American people. A second time the angel dipped water from the ocean, and sprinkled it out as before. The dark cloud was then drawn back to the ocean, in whose heaving billows it sank from view. A third time I heard the mysterious voice saying, 'Son of the Republic, look and learn', I cast my eyes upon America and behold villages and towns and cities spring up one after another until the whole land from the Atlantic to the Pacific was dotted with them. Again, I heard the mysterious voice say, 'Son of the Republic, the end of the century cometh, look and learn.

"At this the dark shadowy angel turned his face southward, and from Africa I saw an ill-omened spectre approach our land, It flitted slowly over every town and city of the latter. The inhabitants presented themselves in battle array against each other. As I continued looking I saw a bright angel, on whose brow rested a crown of light, on which was traced the word 'Union', bearing the American flag which he placed between the divided nation, and said, 'Remember ye are brethren.' Instantly, the inhabitants, casting from them their weapons became friends once more, and united around the National Standard.

"And again I heard the mysterious voice saying, 'Son of the Republic, look and learn.' At this the dark, shadowy angel placed a trumpet to his mouth, and blew three distinct blasts; and taking water from the ocean, he sprinkled it upon Europe, Asia and Africa. Then my eyes beheld a fearful scene: from each of these countries arose thick, black clouds that were soon joined into one. And throughout this mass there gleamed a dark red light by which I saw hordes of armed men, who, moving with the cloud, marched by land and sailed by sea to America, which country was enveloped in the volume of cloud. And I dimly saw these vast armies devastate the whole country and burn the villages, towns and cities

that I beheld springing up. As my ears listened to the thundering of the cannon, clashing of swords, and the shouts and cries of millions in mortal combat, I again heard the mysterious voice saying, 'Son of the Republic, look and learn'. When the voice had ceased, the dark shadowy angel placed his trumpet once more to his mouth, and blew a long and fearful blast.

"Instantly a light as of a thousand suns shone down from above me, and pierced and broke into fragments the dark cloud which enveloped America. At the same moment the angel upon whose head still shone the word 'Union', and who bore our national flag in one hand and a sword in the other, descended from the heavens attended by legions of white spirits. These immediately joined the inhabitants of America, who I perceived were well-nigh overcome, but who immediately taking courage again closed up their broken ranks and renewed the battle. Again, amid the fearful noise of the conflict, I heard the mysterious voice saying, 'Son of the Republic, look and learn.' As the voice ceased the shadowy angel for the last time dipped water from the ocean and sprinkled it upon America. Instantly the dark cloud rolled back, together with the armies it had brought, leaving the inhabitants of the land victorious.

"Then once more I beheld the villages, towns and cities springing up where I had seen them before while the bright angel, planting the azure standard he had brought in the midst of them, cried with a loud voice: 'While stars remain, and the heavens send down dew upon the earth, so long shall the Union last.' And taking from his brow the crown on which blazoned the word 'Union', he placed it upon the Standard while the people, kneeling down said, 'Amen'.

"The scene instantly began to fade and dissolve, and I at last saw nothing but the rising, curling vapor I at first beheld. This also disappearing, I found myself once more gazing upon the mysterious visitor, who, in the same voice I had heard before, said, 'Son of the Republic, what you have seen is this interpreted. Three great perils will come upon the Republic. The most fearful is the third (The comment on his word 'third' is "The help against the THIRD peril comes in the shape of Divine assistance. Apparently the Second Advent. Ed. P. UN. ("J. J.'S.) passing which the whole world united shall not prevail against her. Let every child of the Republic learn to live for his God, his land and Union. With these words the vision vanished, and I started from my seat

and felt that I had seen a vision wherein had been shown me the birth, progress, and destiny of the United States.

"Such, my friends," concluded the venerable narrator, "were the words I heard from Washington's own lips, and America will do well to profit by them.

Read Matthew 24 and 25; Mark 13; Luke 17:20-37, 21:6-36; Daniel and Revelation.

I pray, God, forgive me because Jesus paid the penalty for all my past sins. Help me to live right in the future and to be ready for Jesus when He comes."

Sister Ruth Drake

## NEWS ITEMS

### ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

Second District Meeting will be held at Englewood, April 3-4, 1981. Dinner will be served Friday noon with services starting at 2:00 P.M. The District Meeting will be on Saturday. Services on Sunday will start at 9:30 A.M.

Sister Shirley Frick, Cor.

### PLEVNA, INDIANA

The Plevna Congregation plans Pre-Easter Services beginning the evening of April 15 and ending, Sunday, April 19. Our Lovefeast will begin on Saturday at 2 P.M. with the Lovefeast at 7:30 P.M. Services on Sunday.

Bro. Merle Swihart of Topeka, Indiana will be the guest speaker. We invite all to come worship with us.

Sister Verda Lorenz, Cor.



## CRITICISM

"Show me a man who has never been criticized, and I'll show you a man who has never accomplished anything. We have heard this remark often. It is true, and probably more true in Christian service than anywhere else. When people are at work for God, Satan will go to work, too — creating as much discord as possible. It is better to accomplish something and run the risk of being criticized than to do nothing worthwhile for fear of criticism. It is easier to criticize than to work. It requires intelligence and planning to build a temple. But the most ignorant person can tear one down. Anybody can criticize. It takes courage to work.

- Anonymous

Selected by Sister Eileen Broadwater

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

APRIL 15, 1981

NO. 8

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST

In the cross of Christ I glory,  
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time;  
All the light of sacred story  
Gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'er take me,  
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
Never shall the cross forsake me:  
Lo! It glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming  
Light and love upon my way,  
From the cross the radiance streaming  
Adds more luster to the day.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,  
By the cross are sanctified;  
Peace is there that knows no measure,  
Joys that thro' all time abide.

Sir John Bowring

## **SIMON THE CYRENIAN**

"And as they led him away, they laid hold upon one Simon, a Cyrenian, coming out of the country, and on him they laid the cross, that he might bear it after Jesus." Luke 23:26.

But for the notice given here and in the other Gospels, we would never know about this Simon. Although we know very little about him, yet there is a lesson in this man's brief appearance upon the pages of sacred history.

Jesus had been cruelly treated by Pilate's soldiers, who had beaten him, crowned him with thorns and finally scourged Him with metal-tipped whips. He had also borne the agony of rejection, contempt and denial. He had begun the arduous journey up Calvary's road with His cross but his strength was sapped. Simon was compelled to carry it the rest of the way. Although he may not have preferred to do this duty yet he went the compelled first mile. It was not a pleasant task, even if it had been for a criminal, but even less so for an innocent man. There was no other service that Simon could render Jesus. He did what he could. The soldiers could compel Simon to assist them for one duty bound mile but any service beyond that was from love. Jesus, was going beyond the realm of duty. He loved His own, He loved those of the world and He loved His Father. Such a love demanded a great price.

What impression this service had upon Simon we can not know. Did the appearance of the battered Jesus elicit sympathy? Did Jesus thank him in a special, kindly way that softened a heart made rebellious by compelled service? In Mark 15:21 his sons, Alexander and Rufus, are spoken of. They evidently were Christians who

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## **THE BIBLE MONITOR**

**APRIL 15, 1981**

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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were known by Mark and others. Their father's service must have had a positive influence on them. They could look back at their father's service as having part in making possible the salvation of their souls. He had borne the cross that Jesus died upon to save them and all since.

Simon had a very humble place of service. His was not a easy nor a glorious task. He may have become weary under that load. The soldiers who compelled him were not friendly, they urged him to go faster so they might get this execution finished so the rebellious Jews would settle down. He may have regretted the service he rendered the rest of his life. But without his effort, the cross would not have been moved to the forefront of the world's history. His was a small part in a larger plan. He performed well what he was called upon to do. It was a service hardly worthy of notice yet his name is preserved in the Sacred Record for eternity. His service was not large but it was necessary to bring the plan of salvation to mankind through the crucifixion of Jesus. Simon moved the cross to the place that is, at one time, both horrible and glorious.

Luke notes that Jesus went before and Simon followed after Him with His cross. Cross bearing must come after salvation. Simon bore his cross of service and obedience after Jesus. There was no merit in bearing the cross before the Saviour. Cross bearing will not merit salvation in its own strength or goodness. Cross bearing only has meaning when it comes after the One who died on the cross. Once the question of the soul's salvation is settled the New Testament way, then there is a cross that needs to be borne. Without the Saviour's commands, each would bear his cross to suit himself, but a disciplined cross bearing is needed if any will truly come after Him. Simon could not go any direction he might wish to. It would have been easier to turn around and go down the hill. The path of least resistance is always appealing, but that cross was needed at the top, so Simon followed the One who would use it.

The lessons in the brief notice given Simon may be applied to our lives. Although we are not in the same place that we could render the same service as Simon, still there is a place for each of us. We need to be ready to go not only the duty bound first mile but the love-compelled second mile. Our service should be an inspiration and encouragement to ourselves, our families and our Brethren and Sisters. We should be willing to be found in the humblest of service. We should do whatever comes to hand that will further the Kingdom of God. Though our names will not be etched upon monuments of worldly honor, they will be entered upon God's eternal record. Our cross bearing must be in faithful service to our Saviour. Our service must be that disciplined, loving service that we feel for our souls' Saviour.

Are you willing to follow the example of Simon, the Cyrenian?

## HE SHALL RISE AGAIN

"And they shall scourge him, and put him to death: and the third day HE SHALL RISE AGAIN." Luke 18:33. No "ifs", no "maybes" about it, Jesus would rise again. His death on the Cross was not the end and He did rise again at the appointed time. When the stone was rolled away from the sepulchre, it was then revealed that Jesus was no longer there. But how could this be? Where was He now?

There was a time of great distress and uncertainty for the disciples and all others close to Jesus preceding His death and for several days after. Even though He had told them what would happen to Him, they didn't understand it. "From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples how that he must ...suffer..., and be killed, and be raised again the third day." Matt. 16:21. Never were they left without hope when Jesus told them He had to die, but it was beyond their understanding and they were very sorrowful.

While Jesus was hanging on the cross, many mocked Him. "If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross." "He saved others; himself he cannot save." "If he be the king of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him." "He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him." (From Matt. 27) Surely Jesus' heart must have ached, not for Himself, but for these who didn't understand who He was nor His purpose on this earth. To them, Jesus' death was the end, but no matter what they said or thought, He would rise again.

At the moment of Jesus' death, some very astonishing things happened. The earth shook, rocks split apart, graves opened and saints arose. Some of the scoffers became believers and realized He truly was God's Son. The veil in the temple was torn in two from top to bottom for it was no longer needed. Christ had become our High Priest and with His own blood atoned for our sin. Those who believed in Christ could now come to God through Him, rather than through a priest.

While Jesus' body was still in the tomb, the chief priests and Pharisees had a consultation with Pilate. Jesus had said, "After three days I will rise again" and they remembered this (Matt. 27:62-66). They weren't sure what might happen and they weren't about to take any chances. The sepulchre was then sealed and a guard posted, but their efforts couldn't keep Christ within.

On the first day of the week, there was another earthquake. An angel came and rolled the huge stone away from the door of the tomb. He then sat upon it and waited to give a special message to those who came there. The guards were terrified and helpless and

no doubt wished they were on guard anywhere but at the tomb of Jesus.

The women came expecting to anoint a lifeless body. They wondered who would roll the stone away for them, not knowing it had already been done. When they saw the open door, they went into the tomb, but Jesus was not there! They were both afraid and astonished as the angel spoke to them. "Don't be afraid; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified, but He's not here anymore. He is risen! See where His body was? Go now and tell His disciples and Peter."

The disciples and the women were all in a mixed state of emotions while they tried to grasp the fact that Jesus was alive. "As yet they knew not the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead." John 20:9. Peter was singled out to be told Jesus was alive again and was one of the first to see Jesus. He had denied his Lord and probably needed some special assurance that he was forgiven. Jesus supplied Peter's need and each of the others in time was given assurance of Jesus' resurrection.

Only John believed when he saw inside the empty tomb (John 20:8). Faith and understanding that Christ was alive came more slowly to the others, especially to Thomas. He was still doubtful a week later and had declared he would not believe until he could see and touch Jesus (John 20:25). Jesus appeared to him also and he did believe. Jesus then opened their understanding that it "behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day." (Luke 24:45-46).

This is only a portion of what happened when Jesus was crucified and later resurrected. Even the Bible doesn't contain it all, but it is enough. "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." John 20:31. Those who believe in Jesus are promised eternal life. "And the dead in Christ shall rise first; then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them." (I Thess. 4:16-17) Christ did rise again, and we, too, shall rise!

Sister Eileen Broadwater



Three men died on Calvary: one FOR sin, one IN sin, and one TO sin. These three prepositions cover the whole human race. Do not die IN sin. Die TO it by receiving as your Saviour Him who died FOR it in your stead.

Selected by Sister Ruthanna Sauerwein

## THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

### JESUS CALLED HER!

Luke 13:10-17

It was an exciting time in the land of Israel. Jesus, the great "miracle man", was teaching the people about God. He taught by the sea side, sometimes on a mountain, or other times in the desert, in the temple at Jerusalem, or on the streets of some town or village. One Sabbath Jesus was teaching in a Jewish synagogue. It was a place where people met every week to listen to the word of God — like we go to church on Sunday.

There was a woman who had come to hear Jesus that day. I suppose she was in the habit of going to the synagogue every week. I think she was a good woman. It wasn't easy for her to go any place because her back was crooked. The Bible says she was bowed together and could in no way lift up herself. I think she could walk but it must have been very difficult for her to get around. She had been this way for eighteen years. Even so, she went to church. She may have had to walk a long way to get there. We don't know how far it was from where she lived. She was determined in her mind to hear the Word of the Lord. Many people in that time were unable to read or write and they could only learn about God by hearing someone who could read. It should make us feel very humble when we compare ourselves to this poor woman. We have our automobiles, our nice homes, good things to eat and most of us are well and strong and have been to school and can read the Word of God.

Jesus saw the woman and called her to Him. I think she was glad to go to Jesus. He could tell about the love of God and I'm sure this woman listened with all her heart and soul. When she came to where Jesus was, He said, "Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity." Then He laid His hands on her and immediately her back was made straight and she could stand up like anyone. Eighteen years she had been bent and crippled

years she had been bent and crippled; now she was perfectly whole. How happy she was that day! She glorified God — she praised God and thanked Him for the great miracle that Jesus had performed on her.

There was always someone who was jealous of Jesus and this time it was the ruler of the synagogue. He was indignant and said, "There are six days in which men ought to work: in them come and be healed, and not on the sabbath."

No one should tell Jesus what to do because He always knows best. Listen to what He told the ruler, "Thou hypocrite, does not

each one of you on the sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall and lead him away to watering? And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?"

Jesus said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." We have all been crippled by sin and Jesus is the only one who can straighten us out. Jesus called her and He calls all of us to come to Him.

Brother Rudy Cover

## THE TROUBLE WITH STRINGS

I am not an unusual kite. All kites have a basic need to fly. I need not hang on this nail. All winter I have been hanging on this nail. I need to fly.

The wide, open spaces, the breezes, the blue sky, the spring air. I want to do what kites are meant to do. Soaring, drifting and gliding I should be starting to live now. It's Spring.

My problem is all wrapped up in string. I can glide up to five hundred feet, always the same. Same houses, same trees so much I haven't seen. A kite needs new experiences, new skies, fly higher, try new tricks. How can a kite be creative if it doesn't have freedom?

But the string is always there. The operator stands on the ground holding the string with both hands. How much of a kite am I when someone is always there to direct me right or left or pull me? How can I ever develop? How can I experience development when I am tied to a string? What I need is freedom. I need to be my own kite — to do my own thing. Then I'd learn to feel experience — grow.

I can never be a mature, knowledgeable kite until I can call my own shots. I could make up my own mind on how high and where I would fly.

Then came my chance. The wind was right I could hardly get off the ground BUT the string helped me. This I did appreciate of that string. There was a time I didn't know direction or control. I needed the string then too. There was a time when the sky looked big and frightening. That string gave me security always guiding me gently and safely. That string kept me from lots of tragedies. But I was a kite of experience now.

The skies no longer threatened me. I felt confident. I knew control and direction. Security wasn't my need anymore. It was time to cut loose.

I was gliding about five hundred feet up. The big gust caught me by surprise. I pulled with all my might. For one brief moment I experienced freedom. I don't remember anything after that. Does anyone here today know how to fix a broken kite?

The trouble with strings is taken from one of Bro. Dale Jamison's sermons in which he emphasized the thought of how much we need the guidance of Christ in our lives. A common expression today is "I want to do my own thing" with no thought of asking God for His help and guidance.

I hope the kite's string may especially help our young folks to feel the need of the strings given by the Bible and the Church.

Many heartaches could be avoided if we only permitted God to hold the string controlling our lives.

### DIFFERENCE

By Etta Gibson Hoffman

God's standard for His people  
Has always been the same;  
A call to separation  
Down through the ages came  
He wants us to be Holy,  
His challenge still is hurled,  
That His peculiar people  
Be different from the world.

Yes, different in our conduct  
From others round about  
Our Lives are speaking louder  
Than Sermon, Song, or Shout,  
So, let us then be faithful  
That all men in us find  
A Life that speaks for Jesus,  
Forgiving, Courteous, Kind.

And different in our clothing,  
We do not need to guess,  
For God has plainly told us  
How women ought to dress.  
"That women shall not wear  
A Mannish garb", says he,  
"For all that do so shall  
Abomination be." (Deut. 22:5)

He further declares  
That Godly women dress  
In Modest, plain apparel,  
And thus His Name confess.  
No gold or pearls for christians (I Tim. 2:9)  
No bobbed Hair or Painted face,  
No knee-length skirts; we're different,  
Redeemed by saving Grace.

In conversation also,  
By this may all men know,  
For from the heart's abundance,  
The mouth will overflow.  
The worldlings mouth is filthy,  
His talk is foolish, Light;  
The christians talk is different  
Because his heart is right.  
Companions are different;  
No fellowship have we  
With those who walk in darkness;  
What concord can there be? (II Cor. 6:14-15)  
In Business, Marriage, Social Life,  
(Oh, these are Satan Snares)  
"Come out and be ye separate"  
The Word of God declares. (II Cor. 6:17)  
The reason we are different --  
To God we give the praise --  
He changed our hearts completely  
And orders all our ways.  
Lord, keep us always different,  
In conduct, Dress, and talk,  
Not walking, as the scriptures warn,  
"As other Gentiles walked." (Eph. 4:17)

Sister Ruth Drake

## **"THE BIBLE"**

By William Hogg

In my hand lies a miracle! It is a book — the Bible. Its name is derived from the Greek word "Biblia" meaning little books. Within this miraculous book, there are sixty-six books which are the work of some forty-four writers.

While this book tells of many miracles, it is itself one of the two master miracles of this planet. The other climaxing wonder is the Christ which is its central theme.

Consider the miraculous element of this tiny volume. Forty-four writers, living through twenty centuries, produced a perfect harmony of theme and doctrine. While the languages in which it was written are dead, the truth it declares is living today with the glow of eternal youth on every page, and every tongue and dialect on earth has its own translation. Produced every year by the millions of copies, it still remains the world's best seller; and every

generation demands a fresh supply.

What a book!

Millions of copies went to the trenches in the world wars. While around every fireside those left behind looked to its inspired pages for hope.

The father of Democracy, Thomas Jefferson, and the writer of the Declaration of Independence, put himself in the ranks of the lovers of the Bible when he said, "I have always said, and always will say, that the studious perusal of the sacred volume will make us better citizens, better fathers and better husbands."

A president of the United States once said, "Hold fast to the Bible as the sheet anchor of your liberties. Write its precepts in your hearts and practice them in your lives. To the influence of this Book we are indebted for all the progress made in true civilization, and to this Book we must look as our guide in the future."

That prince of pulpiteers, Henry Ward Beecher said of this little volume, "The truths of the Bible are like gold in the soil. Whole generations walk over it, and know not what treasures are hidden beneath."

Someone has said: "The Bible contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of life, the doom of sinners, the happiness of believers. Read it to be wise; believe it to be safe; practice it to be holy. It gives light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the soldier's sword, the Christian's chart. Here paradise is restored, heaven is opened, and the gates of hell are described. Christ is its theme, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth and a garden of flowers. It is given us in life, will be opened in judgment, and remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, rewards the greatest labor, and condemns all who trifle with its sacred contents."

Marvelous Book!

You can hold it between your fingers, but how precious! Precious from association. Precious because fingers now crumbled back to dust have turned its pages! Precious because of its eternal promises. It is precious to me because in it I see myself without hope, and then found in Christ an everlasting joy. Precious because it was my monitor when I was born again; it was my inspiration when I was filled with the Holy Ghost. Truly it has been a lamp unto my feet! I have read it when I could hardly see the words through the tears, and have taken heart and carried on.

It is precious too, for what I have seen it do for others. It has been used at funerals when loved ones were laid to rest. And when wedding bells were ringing their golden jubilee of hearts rejoicing in when loved ones were joined together for life.

Turn the pages of Genesis and you catch the perfume of the flowers in Eden as you walk with our first parents in Paradise. You see man fall. You mark his futile efforts to rise in his own strength, until in monumental calamity he is swept away by the cataclysm of the flood. You see eight persons emerge from the flood for another chance.

What a Book!

Across its pages, you hear the voice of God calling Abraham from Chaldea to continue the "Blood Line" and to found a race of the faithful.

As you read again, a star comes out on the horizon. Wise men cross the Eastern sands. An angelic chorus sings on the hills of Judea. The Christ is born. You walk with Him as the synoptic writers turn the blessed pages. You see lepers cleansed, the blind receive their sight, the dead raised.

Then the sun grows dark, the earth trembles, a cross is on the skyline. Christ is on it. And then the glorious light of the first Easter dawn. The tomb is empty, Christ is risen.

The story does not end with His ascension, but is continued. While the Apostle Peter pours out the philosophy of the Christian Church and John draws back the curtain of Revelation, and allows us to see the scroll of time unrolled we behold the consummation of the ages. And Christ returns to earth. Just before the book closes, from the soul of John is heard the cry of the church, the Bride of Christ, "Even so come, Lord Jesus!"

What a book! Hug it to your heart. Believe and obey it and some day you will walk the golden streets. Let us teach it to our children and commend it to our youth. Then leave it as Life's richest legacy to those who will follow us.

Selected by Brother Clarence Gehr

## HOW CAN WE HELP OUR YOUNG MEMBERS?

I have thought alot about this, day after day, knowing that they will have charge of the Church in the future, after the ones now serving have been called Home or when health causes them to step down. This work is a very serious job. Not everyone is qualified. It requires ones who are faithful to the Lord and are willing to let Christ rule their life. They must be dedicated to the work of the Church, always letting Christ come first in their life. They must be willing to follow all the commandments that Christ has given for His children to observe and will be able not only to guide the older ones in the fold but also the babes, the new ones that come into the Church. Helping them to develop their minds in the Word of God, so they may become a vessel the Lord can use.

There is so much more to contend with than our forefathers had, more fashions, worldly pleasures and thousands of other sinful things to draw them away. We see this, on every hand. Many have been drawn away from the Plain Churches and the Churches that once were plain, but have now fallen in with those of the world. What a pity! These sinful things are taking the very life out of the Church. Satan has entered and the people in charge have fallen for the flowerly path he has placed before them, leaving the thing that would give them a home in Heaven for something that will fade away.

If a Christian life is worth having, it should be worth sharing. By loving our young members we will be able to lead them into the way of truth and righteousness. We receive alot of pleasure when we can help another. Let us never turn down a chance to help someone whether it be something they want to know about God's Word or something they need. Christ always gave a hand to those in need. He not only healed their bodies but gave them spiritual food. Many of the churches today deny that Satan is trying to win the young people. If any member is weak he has to be on guard. Here is where a member who has his faith on the solid rock, which is Christ Jesus, surely can help. So dear ones be ready when you see someone growing cold and not attending services. Go out and visit them.

Dear ones young in the Church. If you will go see an aged minister of the Church and hear him tell of the joy he has received by walking in the footsteps of the Master these many years, it will bring alot of joy into your Christian life and will keep you close to the Lord. Dear young people, if you have a problem take it to your Elder or a minister. They will gladly help you. So many of our young members think they don't have time to do Christian work, but if they would use all their spare time to help needy humanity they would be surprised to see what they could accomplish. Christ was our perfect example of service. He was busy all the time, helping humanity. The beauty of a consecrated life is the prayerful, daily living that prepares us for any task. The consecrated soul in the humblest place is as necessary in the Master's service and honors His name as those who hold a higher office.

I often think if an infidel would read John 5:10 he might have had a different view on life. When an infidel was dying these are the words he said, "I know the day of grace is past — gone never to return. O, Eternity, Eternity, To dwell forever with devils in the burning lake must be my portion and that justly." Dear ones whom will we serve? Choose wisely the one you will serve and prepare to meet thy God.

Sister E. M. Alltus

## IF GOD SHOULD GO ON STRIKE

How good it is that God above  
has never gone on strike,

Because He was not treated fair  
in things He didn't like,

If only once He'd given up, and  
said, "That's it, I'm through!

"I've had enough of those on  
earth so this is what I'll do.

"I'll give my orders to the sun —  
cut off the heat supply!

"And to the moon — give no more  
light, and run the oceans dry.

"Then just to make things really  
tough and put the pressure on,

"Turn off the vital oxygen till every  
breath is gone!"

You know He would be justified,  
if fairness was the game,

For no one has been more abused  
or met with more disdain

Than God, and yet He carries on,  
supplying you and me

With all the favors of His grace,  
and everything is free.

Men say they want a better deal,  
and so on strike they go,

But what a deal we've given God  
to whom all things we owe.

We don't care whom we hurt to  
gain the things we like;

But what a mess we'd all be in, if  
God should go on strike.

- Anonymous

Selected by Brother Harley Rush



C-H-U-R-C-H spells Church. But it doesn't mean anything  
unless UR in it.

Selected by Sister Ruthanna Sauerwein

**NEWS ITEMS****GENERAL CONFERENCE**

June 6-10, 1981

The Lord willing, General Conference will be held at the Maranatha Bible Camp Grounds, located on Interstate 80, thirteen miles east of North Platte, Nebraska. Exit at the Maxwell, Nebraska exit and go approximately 100 yards south of Interstate 80 to the entrance road, turn west, then go one mile to the grounds.

Those coming by plane or bus will need to call the Conference Grounds for someone to pick them up after arriving at North Platte.

Bedding will be available for those coming by plane or bus. All others need to bring their own. There will be complete hookup facilities for campers and trailers.

Most of the rooms on the grounds accommodate from four to twelve people and it will be helpful when writing for reservations to tell us whom you would be willing to share accommodations with.

Send your reservations to Bro. Jerry Moss, Rt. 1, Dallas Center, Iowa 50063 or Bro. Carl E. Reed, 4716, 139th Street, Grandview, Missouri 64030. Address of the grounds:

Maranatha Bible Camp  
P.O. Box 549  
North Platte, Nebraska 69101  
Telephone: (308) 582-4512

**MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE**

The new address of Elder Emery Wertz is 33720 Rd. 26, McClave, Colorado 81057.

**GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI**

The Lord willing, the Grandview Congregation plans to hold their Spring Lovefeast April 25-26. Services will start at 11 A.M. Saturday. Also services in the afternoon with Lovefeast in the evening at 7:30. Services all day Sunday.

Come and fellowship with us.

Sister Bertha Jarboe, Cor.

**McCLAVE, COLORADO**

The Lord willing, the McClave, Colorado Congregation plans to hold their Spring Lovefeast May 2-3, 1981. Services will start at eleven o'clock Saturday morning, May 2. Lovefeast at 7:30 p.m.

Those who can, please come to enjoy these meetings with us. They are wonderful, spiritual food for the soul.

Sister Aurelia Wertz, Cor.

## HOMESTEAD, FLORIDA

Again we were blessed with the privilege of enjoying another Lovefeast service at Homestead, Florida in the home of Bro. and Sis. Verling Wolfe. We came together Saturday, February 14 for the examination services and in the evening for the Lovefeast service. Ministers present were Elders David Ebling, James Kegerreis, Howard Surbey and Joseph Flora. Elder Flora officiated at the Lovefeast service with fifteen members present. Twenty-seven gathered again Sunday morning to receive good messages from God's Word.

Our aim — should be to please the Lord. The promise is to the faithful few.

Brother J. F. Marks

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MAY**

- May 3 — Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch - Acts 8:26-40.  
May 10 — MOTHER'S DAY - Judges 5:1-31.  
May 17 — Conversion of Saul - Acts 9:1-31.  
May 24 — Peter Heals the Sick; Raises the Dead - Acts 9:32-43.  
May 31 — Peter's Vision - Acts 10:1-18.

**QUESTIONS:**

- (1) What did Philip say was necessary for the Eunuch to do to have the privilege of water baptism? - Acts 9:37.
- (2) What happened to Philip after he baptized the eunuch? Acts 9:39-40.
- (3) What great thing happened to Saul of Tarsus that caused him to be a believer of Jesus Christ? - Acts 9:5.
- (4) After Ananias laid hands on Saul and he again received his sight, what did Saul do? - Acts 9:18.
- (5) What did the raising of Dorcas from the dead cause many to do? - Acts 9:42.
- (6) What kind of a man was Cornelius? - Acts 10:2.



People need people and friends need friends  
And we all need love for a full life depends  
Not on vast riches or great acclaim,  
Not on success or on worldly fame,  
But just in knowing that someone cares  
And holds us close in their thoughts and prayers.

Selected by Sister Ruthanna Sauerwein

**DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR MAY, 1981****DECEIT**

Memory Verse: Job 27:4

My lips shall not speak wickedness, nor my tongue utter deceit.

Fri. 1 - I Sam. 28:1-25

Sat. 2 - II Sam. 3:17-39

Memory Verse: Psa. 24:3 & 4

Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

Sun. 3 - II Chron. 32:1-23

Mon. 4 - Job 6:1-30

Tues. 5 - Job 12:1-25

Wed. 6 - Job 13:1-28

Thur. 7 - Job 15:1-35

Fri. 8 - Job 27:1-23

Sat. 9 - Job 31:1-20

Memory Verse: Psa. 43:1

Judge me, O God, and plead my cause against an ungodly nation: O deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man.

Sun. 10 - Job 31:21-40

Mon. 11 - Psa. 5:1-12

Tues. 12 - Psa. 10:1-18

Wed. 13 - Psa. 24:1-10

Thur. 14 - Psa. 35:1-28

Fri. 15 - Psa. 36:1-12

Sat. 16 - Psa. 38:1-21

Memory Verse: Psa. 72:13 & 14

He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy. He shall redeem their soul from deceit and violence: and precious shall their blood be in his sight.

Sun. 17 - Psa. 43:1-5

Mon. 18 - Psa. 50:1-23

Tues. 19 - Psa. 52:1-9

Wed. 20 - Psa. 55:1-23

Thur. 21 - Psa. 72:1-20

Fri. 22 - Psa. 78:1-25

Sat. 23 - Psa. 78:26-48

Memory Verse: 101:6 & 7

Mine eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me: he that walketh in a perfect way, he shall serve me. He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my house: he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight.

Sun. 24 - Psa. 78:49-72

Mon. 25 - Psa. 101:1-8

Tues. 26 - Psa. 109:1-31

Wed. 27 - Psa. 119:113-128

Thur. 28 - Psa. 120:1-7

Fri. 29 - Prov. 11:131

Sat. 30 - Prov. 12:1-28

Memory Verse: Psa. 120:2

Deliver my soul, O Lord, from lying lips, and from a deceitful tongue.

Sun. 31 - Prov. 14:1-35

Memory Verses: Prov. 11:18

The wicked worketh a deceitful work: but to him that soweth righteousness shall be a sure reward.

Prov. 12:20

Deceit is in the heart of them that imagine evil: but to the counselors of peace is joy.

Paul R. Myers  
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Greentown, OH 44630

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

MAY 1, 1981

NO. 9

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## CHRIST RECEIVETH SINFUL MEN

Sinners Jesus will receive;  
Sound this word of grace to all  
Who the heav'nly pathway leave,  
All who linger, all who fall.

Come, and He will give you rest;  
Trust Him, for His word is plain;  
He will take the sinfulness;  
Christ receiveth sinful men.

Now my heart condemns me not,  
Pure before the law I stand;  
He who cleansed me from all spot,  
Satisfied its last demand.

Christ receiveth sinful men,  
Even me with all my sin;  
Purged from ev'ry spot and stain,  
Heav'n with Him I enter in.

— Neumaster

## PRIDE

Pride can take many forms. Pride usually denotes a haughty or boastful spirit. This pride causes many to neglect their souls' salvation. They are so wrapped up in themselves and their things, that they fail to think of the future when their present talents and possessions will be of no value to them. The world's possessions and praise will never pay for the soul.

Pride can be destructive. It destroys good will among people and the place of pre-eminence that should belong to God in each life. Another form of pride although more subtle, may actually be more destructive of Spiritual health. This is the self-sufficient attitude that refuses proffered help and causes its owner to miss out on many blessings, both temporal and Spiritual. These people consider themselves able to provide for themselves. While they are willing to help others, for it shows their superiority, they refuse help. If for some reason, help is accepted, their pride will try to pay for it, rather than accept it as a gift. This attitude can cause ill feelings, for the one offering the gift may be offended that his gift is not accepted.

This form of pride would be bad enough if it were limited to temporal affairs, but when it is transferred to Spiritual affairs it becomes tragic. Many souls have been shipwrecked upon the reef of pride. Many feel they are well able to gain Heaven by their own effort. They may be very moral in their dealings and careful in their lifestyle with the idea such a life will gain them a Heavenly Home. They feel their good will outweigh their bad in the scales of God's judgment. They fail to realize that despite their supposed

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## THE BIBLE MONITOR

## MAY 1, 1981

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

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goodness, they are still sinners, unable to save themselves. "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." No matter how good they may believe that they are they still come short of the perfection of God. As long as they come short here, they will come short of their goal.

Their good self-opinion of themselves causes them to deny the need of Jesus Christ as their Saviour. They can make their own way. They do not need God's gift of salvation. God recognizes the inability of fallen man to provide for his own salvation. His justness demanded that a price be paid for the sins of each, yet His Grace and Love were so great that He sent His Son to pay that price. Jesus bore the penalty of each person's sins upon the cross. It is necessary that each, who would be right with God, who would gain Heaven at last, must accept that gift of God. If the gift is unaccepted then the one who refuses it must be prepared to pay the penalty for himself. The penalty will be eternal separation from God. It is beyond human logic how God could pay the debt that we owe to Him.

The price of pride is very high when it keeps a soul out of Heaven. It is sad to consider that many who know the plan of salvation and realize that God has shown a tremendous love to mankind, do not accept God's gift because of their pride. Their excuses may take many forms but pride is the unlying reason.

For some pride interferes in a different way. They realize the love of God. They know there is a gift that God offers them. They even desire to receive that gift. But their pride insists that they know better than God what the terms of the plan of salvation should be. For some pride insists on faith only. Some can not see the need of baptism. Others see no special need of holy Christian living. For others, pride insists that works is everything. Pride can be very destructive Spiritually for it can keep one from following the way God has designed for man's spiritual good.

Even those who have accepted God's gift and have admitted the rightness of God's plan of salvation, pride may still enter to rob them of their full Christian joy. Some develop a pride that causes them to rebel against the Church. They refuse to submit to the helps the Church provides each member in the way of boundaries for the member's activities. Pride here can be as destructive as in the refusal of the plan of salvation. A little pride may increase until that member is in total rebellion against the Church.

It is well for us to look into our lives and emotions to find what lies there. If we look well and happen to find some pride lurking there, it behooves us to put it away.

## THE CASE FOR MERCY

"It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed." Lam. 3:22a. There has never been a person who didn't need God's mercy. The dictionary says "mercy" means to inflict a lighter punishment than justice warrants. In other words, mercy means you get a better deal than you deserve. A fair deal is just and impartial, getting what's deserved. If God gave fair deals rather than mercy, none of us would be around to read this.

Under the Law, there was judgment without mercy. If you sinned, no matter how sorry you were, you had to pay whatever penalty the Law required, maybe even your life. (see Heb. 10:28) There was no chance to say, "Lord, I'm sorry. Will you forgive me and help me do better next time?" There was no opportunity to make amends other than as the Law stated. A mercy seat existed, but mercy as we know it under Grace didn't exist.

The Ark of Testimony contained the Ten Commandments written on the tables of stone. The mercy seat was above the Ark, both being in the Holy of Holies. No one but the high priest could ever enter this area, and that only once a year when he made atonement for the people's sins. Blood was to be sprinkled on the mercy seat at this time; without it, he would die. Read Heb. 9:7-12. God was in the cloud over the mercy seat, thus the mercy seat was between Him and the Law (judgment). Here was where God communed with man and extended mercy for another year after the requirements of the Law had been met.

God has also provided a mercy seat under Grace. Christ became our High Priest when He gave Himself for us, with His own blood He made the atonement for our sins. "By his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption." Heb. 9:12b. The price of our redemption has already been paid. We need now to accept it by faith, for we cannot approach God without Christ. As under the Law, mercy is obtained only through the blood, not of animals but Christ's blood.

The lower courts in this land render judgments, often without mercy. They are supposed to be fair and just, but aren't always. If you are not satisfied with a ruling, you can appeal for mercy — to a Court of Appeals. There's no other place you can go for mercy, no one can do it for you, and mercy will not be given automatically; you must seek it. The original decision is final unless a higher court changes it and if you want mercy, you must ask for it through your lawyer (intercessor) who pleads your case.

We also need an intercessor to plead for us before God. No man can approach God without one, because we are sinners. Christ

was the only one who could redeem us and He is the only one who can intercede for us. He will plead our case before God if we will place our faith in Him. Without Christ, there is only judgment without mercy. With Christ, there is still judgment but with mercy.

When a judgment is rendered, you know where you stand. You know you need mercy when your case has been judged and you stand condemned. God's judgment has already been given, sin is condemned and we stand condemned because we are sinners. Our only hope is to ask for mercy. Someone stated it like this: God is our Judge, Christ is our Advocate (lawyer), Satan the prosecuting attorney. Satan brings charges against us to keep us from obtaining God's mercy both before and after we believe. Christ represents us and pleads for us, obtaining for us the mercy we desire.

Mercy is needed by everyone: "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Rom. 3:23. God has promised us pardon: "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." Isa. 55:7. We need to pray the publican's prayer, "God be merciful to me a sinner", (Luke 18:13) and realize salvation is "not by works of righteousness, which we have done, but according to his mercy, he saved us." Titus 3:5.

Our redemption is in Christ: "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace." Eph. 1:7. This opened the door of mercy to us. Now we must accept it to make it effective. If we reject God's offer of mercy through Christ, we then take on ourselves the full penalty of sin which is spiritual death and eternal separation from God. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Rom. 6:23.

"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain MERCY, and find grace to help in time of need." Heb. 4:16. A prisoner who is pardoned must accept it or the pardon is of no effect. It seems like a foolish thing to not accept a pardon when it is granted. God is "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance (II Peter 3:9b). That "any" includes you; He wants you to be saved, not just your neighbor or a friend. You, like the prisoner, would be very foolish to reject the pardon available. What will you do with God's mercy? If you desire it, accept it now!

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## THE GUIDING LIGHT TO SALVATION

We need the instruction of the saving Gospel of Christ for our salvation. We need this light to teach us wrong from right. We have many warnings in God's Word to not be misled by false teachers. We should not be connected or organized with those who ignore the plain commandments of the saving Gospel. We are not to fellowship the unfruitful work of darkness but rather to reprove them.

The Apostle Paul warns, "If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; he is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strift, railings, evil surmisings, perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself." I Tim. 6:3-6.

The light of the Gospel will lead us the way of truth and righteousness. We must stand against the rulers of darkness and spiritual wickedness in high places. Many things that should not be are done under the cloak of religion. Satan sometimes appears as an angel of light. It is important for us to read and know God's Word because of the great deceitfulness that is in the world.

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Beliah? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? and what agreement hath the temple of God with idols." We cannot oppose evil and support it. If we stand against all evil, we can not labor with false prophets and teachers. "... having a form of godliness but denying the power thereof from such turn away." We need to take heed to the warnings of the saving Gospel of Christ.

The saving Gospel is a map that leads to eternal glory. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." Build on the sure foundation. "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." It is required that we cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light.

When we follow the guiding light of the saving Gospel, we oppose apostasy. We cannot be a true Christian and support an organization that is led and controlled by apostates. We are called to be a bright and shining light. When we receive the Christian light, it dawns upon us and we have become a Christian light to

those who are living in darkness. The guiding light, the Gospel of Christ, will lead us safely through this dark and sinful world. We are warned against believing the spirit of the antichrist. True Christians feel sorry for those who at one time seemed to be enlightened but again become entangled with the yoke of bondage.

We need not abide in darkness. We can become part of the light of the saving Gospel. We need to stand against the evils of time to be victorious. "Let the lower lights be burning, send the gleam across the way." Are we a part of the guiding light? If so we are opposed to Church apostasy to the full extent. Referring to the Christian, "Ye are the light of the world, a city set on a hill cannot be hid." Church membership without the true faith can never save. We are commanded to withdraw or to separate from those who apostize the faith. Salvation means more to us than turning away from the instructions and commands of the saving Gospel of Christ. Take heed lest we become hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. We must be separate from evil to walk the shining Gospel way that leads to eternal salvation. We need the light to guide us day and night. "Blessed Jesus take our hand. Take our hand and lead us, Father." We need the Holy Spirit to stand against anti-Christendom. Light will never commune with darkness.

When John the Revelator was on the lonely Isle of Patmos, the fate in store for those who fail to accept salvation was revealed to him. Through the narrow way of the Cross, we can obtain the guiding light to the Beautiful City, that John the Revelator looked to. While on the lonely Isle of Patmos his mind was centered above the perishing things of this world. We need to stand against the evils of time to be victorious in eternity. When we accept the light to salvation, we become a light to others.

Brother J. F. Marks  
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Plant City, Florida 33566



#### A PRAYER

Lead us forever by the hand,  
When things go wrong to understand.  
May our efforts be not in vain,  
Let us carry on, where might we gain.  
'Tis not for riches that we pray,  
But God's guiding hand to be near us,  
Day by day!

— Olive Gebhardt

## HOLY KISS

Romans 16:16, "Salute one another with an holy kiss." I Cor. 16:20, "Greet ye one another with an holy kiss." II Cor. 13:12, "Greet one another with an holy kiss." I Thess. 5:2, "Greet all the brethren with an holy kiss." I Peter 5:14, "Greet ye one another with a kiss of charity." Acts 20:36-37, "When he had thus spoken, he kneeled down, and prayed with them all. And they all wept sore, and fell on Paul's neck, and kissed him."

The holy kiss, or kiss of charity as Peter calls it, is a divine rite and is to be kept and practiced by God's chosen ones in His beloved Church. We find it was always practiced by the apostolic Church and continued on for hundreds of years. Sad it is, that today we only find it practiced in the Dunkard Brethren and a very few other plain Churches. What is wrong, that we are drifting so far from the commandments of the Lord?

This commandment was set apart or consecrated for a certain or special purpose. Because it is practiced by the true followers of God, these writers were prompted by the Holy Spirit to record these sacred scriptures. In I Cor. 14:37, Paul states that these are the commandments of the Lord which He has delivered to His disciples. If it was necessary to be taught and to be practiced by the disciples, then we as the followers of the Lord should teach and practice it today in our beloved Church.

This holy kiss is only for those who follow Christ all the way, for it is a special rite to be practiced when dear ones meet. First, it is a command; second, it is a manifestation of love, one for the other; third, it is an act of righteousness; fourth, Paul connects it with holiness. But because pride has swept into so many of the churches, that practiced it for years and years, they have left it as a matter of choice. Many of the churches claim to be a called out people, a separate people, but that can only be, if they follow all the commandments, the things, Christ taught His followers to practice in His Church.

We often see relatives meet and kiss each other. This shows the great love they have for each other. We, as Christ's followers, should show the love we have one for another. By observing this rite, we let those around see the great love we have for each other.

Many today say it was only a custom for that time. Some tell us it is only to be practiced at the Love Feast. May God open their eyes before it is too late. Paul practiced it. He did not consider it a custom. All the Brethren or Dunkards practiced it for hundreds of years to show their love for each other and their precious Lord.

We as His children in the Dunkard Brethren Church will keep on practicing this commandment, for it is a symbol of that great love we have. We will not be willing as His Church to discard it. The love

for Christ and His Church will prompt us to hold on to those things that were given for His true followers to observe. If we do, we will reap a reward. The reward He has promised to all His faithful ones is a beautiful home in Heaven. May the Dear Lord bless and keep us all faithful till He calls us Home.

Sister E. M. Alltus

## SLAVERY AND THE BIBLE

To many it may seem like slavery is a "dead" issue in our time and that it is a waste of time and energy, as well as space, to write on the subject. However, we feel that there are several areas related to this subject, which are relevant today. There are two areas which we would like to mention. Some suggest that a book which SUPPORTS slavery can not be infallible. There are those who, because of the issue of slavery, have ill feelings towards certain segments of society even today.

We feel in the first place, that one error in thinking that enters into this discussion is that Paul, unlike many church leaders today, refused to try to get an unregenerate society to live by Christian principles. This being the case, it is true that Paul did not oppose the practice of slavery as such. However, we do not feel that Paul actually SUPPORTED the practice of slavery and in reality OPPOSED this practice IN THE CHURCH. The verse usually used to "prove" that Paul supported slavery is Ephesians 6:5, "Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ;" In the first place we believe that these "servants," unlike the slaves of former years in our country and in some remote places even today, VOLUNTEERED to work for an individual for a given number of years. Now notice what Paul has to say to Christian masters, verse 9, "And, ye masters, DO THE SAME THINGS UNTO THEM, forbearing threatening; knowing that your Master ALSO is in heaven; neither is there respect of persons with him."

We believe that Paul was even more explicit concerning his feelings toward slavery in his letter to Philemon concerning the runaway slave, Onesimus. Hear what Paul says Philemon's feelings should be toward Onesimus in verse 16 of this book which contains one chapter. "Not now as a servant, but above a servant, A BROTHER BELOVED, specially to me, but how much more unto thee, BOTH IN THE FLESH, and in the Lord?" We feel one of the greatest blots in the church history of America is the fact that many of the slave holders in early American History were also high officials in the church. While it is true that through this many slaves

were introduced to the Christian religion, we do not believe the slave holders could truly recognize their slaves as "a brother beloved." We are truly thankful that the early "Brethren" would not allow their members to participate in this practice.

Another thought which emerges out of the context of this study is a perfect example of how you can support a RIGHT POSITION in a WRONG WAY. Those who used carnal weapons to combat the evil of slavery were just as much in wrong as those who held slaves. We feel there is an example of this in our day when certain church leaders are suggesting that we should support people who use violence to free themselves from those who suppress them.

We would like to conclude by saying that the issue of whether or not the Bible is infallible DOES NOT rest on whether or not it supports (or opposes) slavery or any other such issue! The Bible does not have to support OUR ideas of right or justice to be infallible. Rather BECAUSE THE BIBLE IS THE INFALLIBLE WORD OF GOD we should line up our ideas of righteousness and justice with it. IF the Bible supports slavery then slavery is right. (We have tried to prove that it does not.) IF the Bible tells Christians to go to war then this is right. (We strongly believe Jesus Christ taught just the opposite.)

May our desire be to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ and to love our fellow man as He has taught. May we be careful that we are not prejudiced against any individual because of his color or nationality. May we desire to be "good servants" for those whom we labor for. And most of all let us remember that OUR MASTER is in Heaven.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, Pa.

## THE FAMOUS TATE FAMILY

Old grandpa Tate had two sons. The families those two boys raised are still in our church but they are as different as day and night.

On the one side is Mr. Dick Tate. He wants to run everything in the church and is miffed if things don't go his way. Ill John 9-10. His younger brother, Ro Tate, isn't quite so bad, but he's always changing everything. On the other hand, whenever new projects are suggested, cousin Hesi Tate and her sister Vege Tate pour cold water on all the proposals. Numbers 13:25 - 14:10.

Then there's young Imi Tate. She wants the church to mimic the world and be run like a social or business club. Romans 12:2. When

the smartest of the family puts his nimble mind but acid tongue into a discussion, it causes anger and frustration. His name is Devas Tate. James 1:26.

But the pair that really do the damage are the famous twins: Brother Irri Tate needles everyone about everything, and no one appreciates his style of humor. Proverbs 26:28. His twin sister stirs up trouble constantly by gossiping and backbiting. She peddles false stories whose damage cannot be retracted and true stories which are spiteful and unloving. The old hag is aptly named Agi Tate. James 3:5-7.

Fortunately the other branch of the family is a wonderful influence in the church. Whenever anything needs doing, Mr. Facili Tate and his happy family will do everything that they can. Matthew 24:34-40; Philemon 5-7.

When his troublesome cousins are stirring up trouble and when sharp, heated words are exchanged, oil is poured on the troubled waters by the words of wisdom of Uncle Cogi Tate. Proverbs 15:1-2.

Best of all are the Medi Tates. Grounded in the Word of God, waiting on the Lord in every situation, in worship and in work, they are a blessing to all. Psalm 119:11-16; Colossians 3:23-24.

This family is very widespread. Likely you have some of their blood in you too. Which side of the family?

#### RECIPE FOR MAKING TATTLERS

Take a handful of seed called run-about, the same quantity of the root nimble-tongue, a sprig of herbs called backbite, a teaspoon of "Don't-you-tell-it," six drachms of malice, and a few drops of envy, which can be purchased in any quantity at the shops of Miss Tabitha Tattler and Miss Nancy Gad-about; stir them well together and simmer for half an hour over the fire of discontent, which is kindled with a little jealousy; then strain through the rag of misconstruction and cork in the bottle of ill will. Shake it occasionally for a few days and it will be ready for use. Let a few drops of it be taken before walking out, and you will be able to speak all manner of evil.

Selected by Sister Ruth Drake



There is no short cut to the Heavenly Kingdom. It is not the way across, but the way of the Cross, that leads Home.

Selected by Sister Ruthanna Sauerwein

## WHERE DO YOU PLACE GOD?

A few years ago I saw a beautiful, yet pathetic picture of Virginia City, Nevada. Back in the days of Mark Twain and the rush for gold and silver, 40,000 people packed the city. Today it is a virtual ghost town with a population of 400. Indeed, a living portrait of the vanity and insecurity of riches. Why then, my beloved brethren, do we often place God behind our quest for money?

Where do you place God in giving? Can we truly say, "I have purposed in my heart to give liberally — and that pledge was kept?" Does God come before clothes, automobile, comfort and convenience? Or do I place Him far behind the mundane affairs of this life?

In our living where is God placed? Recently I read of a man's ordeal in the mountains, isolated for fifty-four days. The things he did to preserve life emphasize how important existence is to human beings. Yet to whom do we devote our energies? Seldom does the creator take top place in our living. Paul said, "For me to live is Christ." (Phillipians 1:21)

Where do we place God in our Homes? In our everyday lives? What do our neighbors think of our attitude toward Christ? And what impressions do our children receive concerning our evaluation of things divine? This is ultimately the question: **WHERE DO YOU PLACE THE LORD, MY BROTHER?** Consider the following:

1. Is our desire for wealth so great that we take jobs (and keep them) that make it impossible for us to fully serve and worship God?
2. Do we partake of the Lord's Supper on Sunday night knowing that we could have been there on Sunday morning?
3. Do we place our Saviour in the background when on vacation by never inquiring concerning places of worship?
4. Have you ever told the Lord that inclement weather made it impossible to attend, and then gone to work Monday morning in the same kind of weather?
5. Do we give more time to civic clubs, sports activities, and recreation than we expend on the Lord's work?
6. Do we never find time for serious Bible study, yet always find time for lesser matters?

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God."

Selected by  
Brother Lynn H. Miller

## NOT GROWING OLD

"They say that I am growing old,  
I've heard them tell it times untold,  
In language plain and bold —  
But I'm not growing old.  
This frail old shell in which I dwell  
Is growing old, I know full well —  
But I am not the shell.

What if my hair is turning grey?  
Grey hairs are honorable, they say.  
What if my eyesight's growing dim?  
I still can see to follow Him  
Who sacrificed His life for me  
Upon the Cross of Calvary.

What should I care if Time's old plough  
Has left its furrows on my brow?  
Another house, not made with hand,  
Awaits me in the Glory Land.

What though I falter in my walk?  
What though my tongue refuse to talk?  
I still can tread the Narrow Way,  
I still can watch, and praise and pray.

My hearing may not be as keen  
As in the past it may have been,  
Still I can hear my Saviour say  
In whispers soft, "This is the way."

The outward man, do what I can  
To lengthen out this life's short span,  
Shall perish, and return to dust,  
As everything in nature must.  
The inward man, the scriptures say,  
Is growing stronger every day.

Then how can I be growing old  
When safe within my Saviour's fold?  
E're long my sould shall fly away,  
And leave this tenement of clay,  
This robe of flesh I'll drop and rise  
To seize the "everlasting prize." —  
I'll meet you on the Streets of Gold,  
And prove that I'm not growing old.

- John E. Roberts  
Selected by J. E. Dettra

## **A RECIPE FOR HAPPINESS**

Mend a quarrel  
Dismiss suspicion  
Write a letter  
Give a soft answer  
Don't give up  
Keep a promise  
Forgive an enemy  
Try to understand  
Appreciate others  
Be kind  
Be cheerful  
Laugh a little more  
Search out an old friend  
Show your trust  
Share some treasure  
Encourage youth  
Manifest your loyalty  
Forget a grudge  
Apologize if you were wrong  
Root out envy  
Think first of someone else  
Be gentle  
Deserve the confidence of others  
Whatever you are doing,  
Do a good job of it.  
Do everything for the glory of God!

Selected by  
Sister Ruby Sowers

## **OBITUARY**

### **ETHEL ROOT**

Sis. Ethel Lillian Root was born January 14, 1895 in Aline, Oklahoma to Louis and Ellen Booze. She departed this life February 11, 1981, at the age of 86 years and 26 days.

She was united in marriage to Isaac William Root, February 8, 1914, near Aline, Oklahoma. They have made their home in Great Bend, Kansas since 1923.

To this union was born eight children. Four sons; Sharon, Wilber and Marion Root of Great Bend, Kansas and David Root of Dallas Center, Iowa. Four daughters; Olive Haldeman of Dallas Center, Iowa; Emma Hartness of Hoisington, Kansas; Eva May Skinner, of Bay City, Texas, and Rosalee Cross of Dallas, Texas.

She was baptized at an early age, being of the Brethren faith almost seventy years. She was a member of the Dunkard Brethren Church, holding her membership at Quinter, Kansas at the time of her death. She leaves to mourn her passing, her husband; her children; and four brothers, Orrie Booze of Woodward, Oklahoma; Emery Booze of Oakdale, California; Sidney Booze of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and Virgil Booze of Albuquerque, New Mexico; sixteen grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

Services were conducted at the Fryberger Mortuary in Great Bend, Kansas, February 13, 1981 by Elders Warren Smith, Emery Wertz and Dale Jamison.

## NEWS ITEMS

### NOTICE

It would be very much appreciated if all General Brotherhood Treasurers could have their Treasurer's reports, with Auditors' remarks and signatures in the possession of the Writing Clerk of Standing Committee by June 1, 1981, so Standing Committee may approve them as business for General Conference.

Writing Clerk of Standing Committee 1980-1981:

Elder Harley Flory  
R.R. #4, Defiance, Ohio 43512

### WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, the Waynesboro Congregation plans for their Spring Lovefeast Service on Sunday, May 3. All are invited to come and enjoy this all day service with us.

Sister Wilma Eberly, Cor.

### LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, the Lititz Congregation plans to have their Spring Lovefeast on Saturday, May 16, 1981 starting at 2 o'clock with the Communion in the evening.

A hearty invitation is extended to all to come to our Lovefeast.

Sister Susanna B. Johns, Cor.

### WEST FULTON, OHIO

The West Fulton Congregation is looking forward to their Spring Lovefeast and Communion Saturday and Sunday, May 16 and 17.

Services begin at 11 o'clock on Saturday morning, services in the afternoon, with the Lovefeast and Communion 7:30 in the evening.

We desire those, who can, to come and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Elaine Leatherman, Cor.

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All contributions to the various Boards should be made out to the Treasury, but sent to the Secretary for his records.

Paul R. Myers  
Box 117  
Greentown, OH 44630

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

MAY 15, 1981

NO. 10

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## LET OTHERS SEE JESUS IN YOU

Be faithful to Jesus that others may see,  
Your light burning steady and true;  
In all of your actions where'er you be,  
Let others see Jesus in you.

Spread comfort and courage while pressing along,  
Your kindness on weary ones strew,  
Your message of gladness will make their hearts strong,  
Let others see Jesus in you.

To those who are friendless take blessings of cheer,  
The strength of the fainting renew,  
And witness for Jesus with service sincere,  
Let others see Jesus in you.

Be cautious and careful and guard against sin,  
For others are looking at you,  
If you would help sinners, salvation to win,  
Let others see Jesus in you.

Be faithful and true, whatever you do,  
Let others see Jesus in you,  
So where'er you go in weal or in woe,  
Let others see Jesus in you.

— L. T. Grant

Selected by Sister Ruthanna Sauerwein

## THE RIBBAND OF BLUE

God, by the hand of Moses, delivered the children of Israel out of the bondage of Egypt. During the time they spent wandering in the wilderness, God continued to protect and direct them; He also instructed them. His specific commands covered nearly every activity of their lives. God sought their obedience to further their spiritual lives.

One of these specific commands (Numbers 15:37-41) concerned their dress, which was to be serviceable, modest and distinctive. They were to make fringes in the borders of their garments and upon this fringe they were to put a blue ribband. Their dress, otherwise, did not vary dramatically from the dress of other people of that part of the world. This was distinctive.

This distinctive garb served several functions. It was a means of identification. It identified them amongst themselves and others as the children of Israel. Other nations had no reason to use a blue ribband, but the children of Israel had been instructed by God to wear it. The ribband of blue was of no great importance in itself except that it was commanded by God. Many of God's commands employ the common items of the household that are elevated to sacredness by God's use of them. Here the blue ribband became an identification that they were God's people. It was not just their professions or their morals but the distinctive dress that identified them.

This blue ribband was a reminder to them of the commandments of God. This one command in turn was to remind them of others by its distinctiveness. When they saw the blue ribband, they were to think of their duties and obligations. They were reminded of God,

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## THE BIBLE MONITOR

## MAY 15, 1981

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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of others and of their own responsibility of holy living. This ribband would remind them to not follow after their own understanding but after the instruction of God.

This distinctive ribband was given to them after they escaped from Egypt. There, they had been identified by their common suffering but after they were beyond the Red Sea they needed an identification to unite them as God's followers. God provided their natural needs and protected them. They certainly wanted to be identified as being a part of His family. This ribband united them and at the same time set them apart from others. The children of Israel, who were unknown to each other, could readily be known as a fellow travelers, under God's cloud and pillar, by this ribband of blue. Although strangers in the flesh, they were united by this sign of their mutual deliverance from bondage.

The ribband of blue was very important to the children of Israel. Although it was a very small thing yet it meant so much as a command of God, as an identification among themselves and the outside world and as a reminder of the holy commands of God. This distinctive feature would be a help to them to preserve their identity as a separate people. Some may have worn the blue ribband who did not live up to its symbolism, but instead of being influenced by these hypocrites, all would do well to consider those who wore it and were helped towards the Promised Land by such a small thing.

This incident from the wilderness journey has an application in the Church today. There remains a need for Christians to be willing to follow God, even in the little things including a distinctive attire. Since robes are not the usual dress in our part of the world, a distinctive garb of a different sort has been worn and insisted upon by the Church. This attire is servicable, modest and distinctive. This distinctiveness should serve Christians as the distinctive, blue ribband served the children of Israel. It is an identification among the members themselves and is known by the world. This identification should strengthen the bonds of union and love among those who share this distinctiveness. This distinctive attire should be a reminder of the holiness that God expects in our living. This attire should keep us from any activity that would be harmful to our spiritual lives.

The blue ribband was a very small thing. The distinctive attire of today is a small thing. Some would reject the plain garb as a small thing that would be unimportant and unnecessary. What a shame that any would let a small thing keep them from enjoying the blessings that God has for those who will obey, even in the little things. Naaman was not told to go to the large and beautiful rivers of his homeland but to the despised Jordan. But it was in the Jordan and his obedience that he found healing.

As travelers through this wilderness on the way to the Promised Land we should use every advantage God has given us. Remember the ribband of blue. Are you a distinctive follower of God?

## **MILLIONS ARE LOST WHILE WE PLAY AT SOUL-WINNING**

A pastor, weary and brain-sore, struggled vainly with his Sunday sermon until the late hours of Saturday night. The week had been crowded with the tedious details of parish activity and he was left to cope with them on his own... correspondence, publicity, newsletters, bulletins, reports, committee meetings, choirs, and a hundred other things that someone had to take care of. When does the ordained of the Lord get down to the business of saving souls, of bringing in the lost, of adequately preparing himself for the preaching of the Word, of concentrating on the spiritual ministry of the parish?

As he read a tract this is the picture he visualized:

He stood on a grassy knoll. At his feet a precipice broke sheer down into infinite space. He could see no bottom, only cloud shapes, black and furiously coiled, and great shadow-shrouded hollows, and unfathomable depths. He drew back dizzy at the depths. Then he saw forms of people moving single-file along the grass. They were making for the edge. There were all kinds of people, some laughing, some crying, some children playing and fighting, rich men and poor men, silly women and sober women, black and white. They flowed from all quarters, and every one of them was stone blind and they were all going straight toward the precipice edge. Then there were shrieks as they suddenly knew themselves falling, and a tossing up of helpless arms, catching, clutching at empty air.

He wondered why no one stopped them at the edge. He couldn't. He seemed glued to the ground and he could not even call out to warn them.

He looked again and saw that there were sentries posted at intervals along the edge of the precipice. They scurried here and there in frenzied activity trying to warn the oncoming hordes. But how few they were, and the intervals between them were very great, with wide, unguarded gaps.

And over these gaps the people continued to fall in their utter blindness, unwarned; the green grass seemed blood-red and the bottomless gulf yawned like the mouth of hell.

Once more he looked, and saw quite a different scene. It was a picture of peace and contentment. There were groups of people,

many groups, out under the trees. They were, no doubt, people whom the sentries had succeeded in turning back and therefore had not perished. They were doing various things. One group was sitting with their backs toward the chasm making, of all things, daisy chains. Sometimes when a piercing shriek cut the quiet air and reached them, it disturbed them and they thought it rather pitiful. But if one of their number decided to get up and try to do something to help, all others would pull that one down again. "Why should you get so excited about that," they would say. "Let the sentries take care of that." "We can't all be sentries, you know. Come, you haven't finished your daisy chain."

Another group of people was about selling. They, too were now and then disturbed by the distant shrieks, but it only spurred them on to greater activity.

Still another group was raffling off some handiwork; another was engrossed in an exciting game of bingo. One group was conducting a sale of some sort, and the cash register was ringing very satisfactorily. Over in another direction a group was pouring over plans for a great cathedral.

And so there was countless activities going on but very few who appeared concerned about the multitudes tumbling into the unfathomable gulf. Though they tried to find someone who might be willing to do sentry duty on the precipice edge, it seemed that hardly anyone wanted to go. For most part, the oncoming multitudes, blind, unaware of the fate which lay before them, pushed on past the daisy-chain makers, the bingo players, the ticket sellers, the church planners, on and on, straight for the edge of the precipice, with no one to stop them from falling, with ear-splitting screams, into the black abyss.

Then he saw still another group of people. A great organ was playing. Men and women in fine clothes, children with scrubbed faces, stood facing a beautiful altar. They seemed so content and satisfied. They lifted their voices in a stirring hymn of praise. The hymn finished, the blessing pronounced, the people turned to each other and began to talk very rapidly about a million things, dinner and business, children and relatives, vacations and weather and crops.

And all the time the multitudes continued to plunge into the dark empty air of the bottomless hole.

And as the sound of the hymn continued to ring in the pastor's ears, another sound was heard. It fell like the horror of great darkness upon him. It was the voice of the Lord, and it said: "Whom shall I send, and who will go for me? Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature, and lo, I am with you always even unto the end of the world."

Selected by Brother Lynn Miller

## THANK YOU LORD

Thank you Lord,  
For another new day,  
Thank you Lord,  
For showing the way  
How to be pleasing to you  
In all that we say and do.

A smile for the one  
Who walks by our side.  
A pat on the shoulder,  
For one who is tired.  
A message of love  
For the one who is alone.

A welcome to the one  
Who has come to our gate.  
A cup of soup  
Even tho' it is late.  
But most of all,  
To help on his way.

And so when the day has ended  
And we kneel to say our prayer,  
We can look in the face of the Savior  
And hear His voice say  
"Well done, my child  
It's been a good day!"

— Ruth Strauss

Selected by Sister Mary Keller

## YOUR LIFE IS NOT YOUR OWN

"It's her life and she can do what she wants", or "he's not hurting anyone but himself" are remarks you often hear. It is an effort to justify someone else in a controversial situation, but it's very poor philosophy. It ignores the fact that the Bible says "For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself." Rom. 14:7. When we make promises to God or to man, we take on a responsibility and no amount of self-indulgence can erase it. With every promise of God and every privilege we have, there is also a responsibility. We so affect the lives of others and we can't change that.

"We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves." Rom. 15:1. If you are strong, you have a responsibility to help those who are weaker. You have no right to go your merry way and trample over whoever may be in your path. Your first thought should not be to please yourself, but

to consider the welfare of those around you. Cain asked, "Am I my brother's keeper?", perhaps hoping to escape responsibility for what he had done. That is exactly what he was to be and so are we. He could not escape the consequences of his actions and neither can we separate ourselves from our responsibilities to others.

Jesus said to the disciples, "Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give." Matt. 10:8. What had they received so freely? In their contact with Christ, the blessing of God was upon them and they were given special power to help others. As they began their ministry, Jesus taught them to give freely, with compassion and concern for those who needed help. The blessings the disciples had known were to be shared, not hoarded to themselves.

"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, LET HIM DENY HIMSELF, and take up his cross, and follow me." Matt. 16:24. Human nature is the opposite of a Godly nature, and must be subdued. It is human to think of self first, but Godly to think of others first. It is human to think your actions are no one else's business, and Godly to be concerned about the effect your life has on others. Human nature must be denied or we cannot follow Jesus. He put others first; so must we.

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." John 13:35. True love includes a commitment, whether it be love to God, to your family or your friends. This love does not use others, but is kind and considerate. It is faithful to responsibility and whatever is entrusted to its care. Love indicates where you stand with God, showing whether you are faithful to Him or not. As a follower of Christ, your life certainly is not your own, and your attitude toward others is an important part of your commitment to Christ.

"And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry." Luke 12:19. This verse reflects the attitude of so many who think they are free to do as they please. Who said just because the storage shelves are full of good things that now you can take it easy and just have a good time, while others do without? This man had not made a commitment to God but he was still responsible to Him. God required this man to give account of his life anyhow, right when he was all set to enjoy himself. God may require the same of you when you least expect it; then what?

"For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags." Prov. 23:21. We all know what happens in the life of a drunkard — the desire for alcohol is placed above everything else, even the necessities of life. The glutton and the lazy person are much the same, putting personal

pleasure above responsibility and good sense. This life has many worthwhile things for us, but when we over-indulge, these things become a problem instead of a blessing. Commitments and responsibilities will then be shoved aside.

God intends for you to share with others, to love your neighbor as yourself. Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35b. It is not blessed to keep it all for yourself. It is not blessed to just love yourself and forget your neighbor. You have a duty to care for your neighbors, your family and friends, but it should be considered a privilege also. Mere duty can become drudgery, but God's way takes away the drudgery and makes sharing a blessing.

You have a personal responsibility for your own life: "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin." James 4:17. When you see where you can share and don't it's sin. When you refuse to take care of your personal duties, it is sin. Your life is not your own; it belongs to God who gave it. Whether you recognize Him as Lord or not, the responsibility is there and sometime you must give account yourself.

In marriage, there is a binding commitment to another person. As parents, we have a commitment to our children. In our friendships, there is a commitment. We are not free to do as we please! How we keep these commitments depends on our relationship to God. If a commitment to Him is not made and kept, chances are the other ones we make will not be kept either. "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." Rom. 14:12. You may wiggle out of other responsibilities, but you can't get away from God.

Sister Eileen Broadwater



## IT WARMS ME

An Italian fruit-seller had received the Word of God into her heart. Seated at her little fruit-stand at the head of a bridge, she spent her spare moments in reading the Bible. One day a gentleman customer said to her: "My good woman, what are you reading?" "It is the Word of God," replied the woman. "The Word of God, who told you that?" "He told me so Himself." "Have you ever spoken to Him?" Looking upward, she replied, "Can you prove to me, sir, that there is a sun up in the sky?" "Prove it!" he replied, "why, the best proof is that it warms me, and that I see its light." "So," she said, "the proof of this Book being the Word of God is that it warms and lights my soul."

**GENERAL CONFERENCE PREACHING PROGRAM**

of the

DUNKARD BRETHREN CHURCH

to be held at

MARANATHA BIBLE CAMP GROUNDS

North Platte, Nebraska

June 6-9, 1981

Time	Speaker	Subject	Text
Sat. P.M.	Alvin Chupp	Peace	Matt. 5:9
Sat. P.M.	David Kegerreis	-----	-----
Sat. Eve.	Laverne Keeney	-----	-----
Sun. A.M.	William Carpenter	The Name of Jesus	Luke 24:46-47
Sun. A.M.	Sunday School	Children: Noah building the Ark	Genesis 6
Sun. A.M.	Harley Flory	Present Before God	Acts 10:33
Sun. P.M.	Galen Litfin	Ye Are Bought With A Price	I Cor. 7:23
Sun. P.M.	David Ebling	-----	-----
Sun. Eve.	Warren Smith	Excuses	Luke 14:16-24
Sun. Eve.	Edward Johnson	The Goal of a Boy, Twelve	Ecc. 12:1
Mon. A.M.	Bible Study	Adults: Faith Children: Abraham, A Man of God	Heb. 11 Gen. 12:1-8
Mon. A.M.	Paul Byfield	-----	-----
Mon. P.M.	Leonard Wertz	Inconsistency, a Sign of the Last Times	James 4:9-10
Mon. P.M.	Rudy Cover	Where Do We Go From Here?	Rev. 2:10
Mon. Eve.	Jacob Ness	Hearing	-----
Mon. Eve.	Frank Shaffer	Heaping Coals of Fire on Enemies Heads	Rom. 12:20
Tues. A.M.	Bible Study	Adults: Practical Christianity Children: Calling of Moses and the End of His Life	Rom. 12 Ex. 3:1-10
Tues. A.M.	Dennis St. John	The Doctrine which Ye Have Learned	Rom. 16:17
Tues. P.M.	Decorum Comm.	A Historical Review: Torreon Mission 1956-1981	
Tues. P.M.	Milton Cook	A History Lesson	I Cor. 10:1-13
Tues. Eve.	Hayes Reed	Mission of the Church in Today's World	Acts 1:1-8

## GOD IS ALWAYS NEAR

One thing can always cheer me  
When I'm feeling sad and low,  
When I tire of daily trials  
That I have to undergo,  
When those who should seem closest  
Seem like I don't know,  
One thing can always cheer me —  
I know that God is near me.

One thing can always cheer me  
When I do not understand  
How the pain and sadness in our lives  
Can get so out of hand.  
When the best of human efforts  
Doesn't meet the day's demands,  
One thing can always cheer me —  
I know that God is near me.

One thing can always cheer me  
More than anything I've known,  
That convinces me I never have  
To struggle on my own,  
That no matter what might happen,  
I will never be alone —  
The thing that always cheers me  
Is knowing God is near me.

— Amanda Bradley  
Selected by Sister Blanche Eberly

## DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

### Part 17

As has been stated in our last article, the fall and destruction of the Babylonian Empire was typical of the destruction and fall of spiritual Babylon, yet to come, in the period of the wrath of God. Returning to the second "beast" of Daniel's vision in chapter seven, which is the bear kingdom, and which is described in chapter two, as the "beast and arms" of Nebuchadnezzar's image.

Josephus says and we quote chapter 10, part 4 concerning this great image. "This is the dream which thou sawest, and its interpretation is as follows: The head of gold denotes thee, and the kings of Babylon that have been before thee (meaning Nebuchadnezzar); but the two hands and arms signify this, that

your government shall be dissolved (meaning the Babylonian government) by two kings." The Three Ribs, which Daniel saw, stood for three kingdoms, consisting of Lydia, Babylon and Egypt which formed a triple Alliance, whose purpose was to check the Medo-Persian Power, but they were all destroyed by it.

We note that two years after Daniel records this seventh chapter, he records another vision. Dan. 8:1-4, "In the third year of the reign of King Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first. And I saw in a vision; and it came to pass, when I saw, that I was at Shushan in the palace, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in a vision, and I was by the river of Ulai. Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and behold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last. I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great." Daniel 8:20 tells us who this ram is, "The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia," meaning, no doubt, Darius and Cyrus.

We will not note, the manner in which the kingdom of Babylon was given to the Medes and Persians. We need not go into a detailed account, for Bible readers are well acquainted with the great feast of Belshazzar with a thousand of his lords, when he saw the "hand writing on the wall." Daniel 5:1-31. Note Daniel's interpretation of the hand writing upon the wall. Verses 25-31, "And this is the writing that was written, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN. This is the interpretation of the thing: MENE; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it. TEKEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. PERES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians. Then commanded Belshazzar, and they clothed Daniel with scarlet, and put a chain of gold about his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him, that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom. In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain. And Darius the Median took the kingdom, being about threescore and two years old." Thus was the kingdom of Babylon divided and given to the Medes and Persians.

This was the "ram" of chapter eight which had two horns "both were high, but one was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last. They pushed westward, and northward, and southward, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great."

However, Daniel was shown in another vision the overthrow of this ram or bear. In Daniel 7:5 is revealed another characteristic of the second beast, the bear. "... And it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh."

We understand this from Daniel's later vision, which he records in chapter 8: In the year 534 B.C. he dreamed again of this beast and likened it to a bear. Also in Dan. 11:1-2, "also I in the first year of Darius the Mede, even I stood to confirm and to strengthen him. And will shew thee the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all; and by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia." Hence, this ram pushing forth identifies it with the "bear" crunching "three ribs in its mouth." This we have already noted was prophetic of the subjugation of Lydia, to the west; Babylon, to the north; and Egypt, to the south.

Thus the bear was destroyed, which was the kingdom of the Medes and Persians. Josephus states, concerning this bear, "But another king that shall come from the west armed with brass, shall destroy the government." Returning to Nebuchadnezzar's Image, Dan. 2:39, we see the harmony with the record of Josephus, "And after thee (Babylon) shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, (which was Medo-Persia.) And another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth." (meaning Grecia).

Let us compare this with Daniel's third beast, the LEOPARD. Daniel 7:6, "After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it." The four wings and four heads of this beast represent four kings or rulers of Grecian dominion.

In other words, it is the Grecian Kingdom, which is the "belly and thighs of brass" of Nebuchadnezzar's image or the leopard. The leopard is said to be the most agile and graceful of creatures, its speed is pictured here by its wings. Slight in its frame, yet strong, swift, fierce in its characteristics, he is a symbol of the rapid conquests of the Greeks under Alexander the Great, their first king. Yet, it took him about ten years to overthrow the unwieldy forces of Persia and to subdue the whole civilized world. Evidently the four heads of the leopard represent the four kingdoms, into which the Empire of Alexander was divided by his generals, namely, Egypt, Syria, Thrace and Macedonia. The third beast, the leopard corresponds to the belly and thighs of the Image.

Josephus says that after the kingdom of Babylon was to be dissolved by two kings, "That another king, that shall come from the west, armed with brass shall destroy that government." Daniel says, chapter 2:39, that this third kingdom of brass, the leopard,

shall bear rule over all the earth."

Also in his vision in chapter 8, the manner in which this third kingdom comes into power, further gives us to understand the interpretation given unto him about who the kingdom is. Daniel 8:5, "And as I was considering, behold, and he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes." We see here that Josephus' record agrees with Daniel's.

Let us pause here and note who this notable horn is. History shows this horn to be Alexander the Great, the first ruler of the Grecian Empire. Dan. 8:6-8, "And he came to the ram that had two horns (meaning he came upon Persia), which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him, in the fury of his power. And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler (anger) against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns: and there was no power in the ram (Persia) to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand. Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn (Alexander the Great) was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven." Chapter 8:21 says, "And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king." Daniel describes this great king again in Dan. 11:3, "And a mighty king shall stand up, that shall rule with great dominion, and do according to his will." We believe that this is none other than Alexander the Great, king of Grecia.

Going on with the reading of this context in Dan. 11, we note: "And when he shall stand up, his kingdom shall be broken, and shall be divided toward the four winds of heaven; and not to his posterity." The dictionary says the word "posterity" means: first, "descendants, children, children's children, and so forth," indefinitely; the race that proceeds from a progenitor; as, the whole human race is the posterity of Adam." The second definition is: "Succeeding generations; opposed to ancestors." From these definitions, we conclude that when the Great King would stand up, and his kingdom be broken, that it would be divided and scattered over the whole world, "toward the four winds of heaven." And after the reign of three more kings, which would reign in Grecia, then the kingdom would be given to another king, or kingdom one not of their posterity or race, but one opposed to their ancestors. In other words it would be given to the fourth kingdom which according to history was the Roman Empire, represented by the "ten toes of the feet of the image of Nebuchadnezzar, Dan. 2:41-43. This helps us to understand the "four notable horns," of Dan. 8:8.

Reading again from Dan. 11:4, "And not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion which he ruled: (meaning, not according to the rule of the Grecian Empire) for his kingdom shall be plucked up, even for others beside those" (or for the Romans). Let us now note the full context of Josephus, concerning Nebuchadnezzar's dream, harmonizing his interpretation, with Daniel's interpretation, of the image. Josephus, "This is the dream, which thou sawest, and its interpretation is as follows: The head of gold denotes thee, and the kings that have been before thee (that is Nebuchadnezzar and previous kings); but the two hands and arms signify this, that your government (Babylonian government) shall be dissolved by two kings (kings of Persia): but another king that shall come from the west armed with brass (the king of Grecia), shall destroy that government (government of Medes and Persians); and another that shall be like unto iron, shall put an end to the power of the former (meaning the Roman government would put an end to the Grecian power), and shall have dominion over all the earth, on account of the nature of iron, which is stronger than that of gold, of silver, and of brass." We have now shown the harmony of Josephus's interpretation of image with that of Daniel's.

To be continued  
Brother William Root

## OBITUARY

### STELLA ROUNDS

Sis. Stella Mae Rounds, 91, the daughter of Noah and Christine (Warnick) Wilt died at the Garrett County Memorial Hospital. She was the widow of Salem E. Rounds.

She was a member of the Broadwater Chapel Dunkard Brethren Church.

She is survived by nine sons, Albert N. Rounds, Harrisonburg, Virginia; Orval Rounds, Swanton, Maryland; Charles Rounds, Midland, Pennsylvania; Gerald Rounds, Keyser, W. Virginia; William Rounds, Bloomington, Maryland; Ellis Rounds, Alliance, Ohio; Harvey Rounds, Kearneysville, West Virginia; Harold Rounds, Tempe, Arizona; Paul Rounds, Grantsville, Maryland; three daughters, Mrs. Wilma Bittinger, Grantsville, Maryland; Mrs. Nellie Travis, Westernport, Maryland; Mrs. Bessie Kerling, Keyser, W. Virginia; twenty eight grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren.

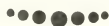
Funeral services were held at the Westernport Church of the Brethren by Elder Paul R. Myers, assisted by J. L. Swigart, Westernport, Maryland. Interment in Rest Lawn Memorial Gardens.

## HEAVEN'S VERY SPECIAL CHILD

A Meeting was held quite far from Earth!  
It's time again for another birth.  
Said the angels to the Lord above,  
"This Special Child will need much love.  
His progress may be very slow,  
Accomplishment he may not show.  
And he'll require extra care  
From the folks he meets down there.  
He may not run or laugh or play:  
His thoughts may seem quite far away.  
In many ways he won't adapt  
And he'll be known as handicapped.  
So let's be careful where he's sent.  
We want his life to be content.  
Please, Lord, find the parents who  
Will do a special job for You.  
They will not realize right away  
The leading role they're asked to play.  
But with this child sent from above  
Comes stronger faith and richer love.  
And soon they'll know the privilege given  
In caring for their gift from Heaven.  
Their precious charge so meek and mild  
Is Heaven's Very Special Child."

— J. Massimilla

Selected by Sister E. M. Alltus



## GIVING TO GOD

A merchant, at his own expense, supported several native missionaries in India, and gave liberally to the cause of Christ at home. On being asked how he could afford to do it, he replied, "Before my conversion, when I served the world and self, I did it on a grand scale, and at the most lavish expense. And when God by His grace called me out of darkness, I resolved that Christ and His cause should have more than I ever spent in the world. And as to giving too much, it is God who enables me to do it; for at my conversion I promised that I would give to His cause a fixed proportion of all that my business brought in to me; and every year since I made that promise it has brought me in about double what it did the year before, so that I easily can, as I do, double my gifts for His service."

**DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR JUNE, 1981****DECEIT**

Memory Verse: Prov. 20:1

Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

Mon. 1 - Prov. 20:1-30

Tues. 2 - Prov. 23:1-35

Wed. 3 - Prov. 24:1-34

Thur. 4 - Prov. 26:1-28

Fri. 5 - Prov. 27:1-27

Sat. 6 - Prov. 29:1-27

Memory Verse: Prov. 20:17

Bread of deceit is sweet to a man; but afterwards his mouth shall be filled with gravel.

Sun. 7 - Prov. 31:1-31

Mon. 8 - Isa. 30:1-18

Tues. 9 - Isa. 30:19-33

Wed. 10 - Isa. 36:1-22

Thur. 11 - Isa. 37:1-20

Fri. 12 - Isa. 37:21-38

Sat. 13 - Isa. 44:1-20

Memory Verse: Prov. 27:6

Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

Sun. 14 - Isa. 44:21-48

Mon. 15 - Isa. 53:1-12

Tues. 16 - Jer. 4:1-18

Wed. 17 - Jer. 4:19-31

Thur. 18 - Jer. 5:1-14

Fri. 19 - Jer. 5:15-31

Sat. 20 - Jer. 8:1-22

Memory Verse: Prov. 31:30

Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.

Sun. 21 - Jer. 9:1-26

Mon. 22 - Jer. 14:1-22

Tues. 23 - Jer. 17:1-27

Wed. 24 - Jer. 23:1-20

Thur. 25 - Jer. 23:21-40

Fri. 26 - Jer. 29:1-14

Sat. 27 - Jer. 29:15-32

Memory Verse: Isa. 53:9

And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

Sun. 28 - Jer. 37:1-21

Mon. 29 - Eze. 14:1-23

Tues. 30 - Hosea 7:1-16

Memory Verse: Jer. 14:14

Then the Lord said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.

Jer. 17:9 & 10

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

Paul R. Myers  
Box 117  
Greentown, OH 44630

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

JUNE 1, 1981

NO. 11

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## HOW BLEST THE SACRED TIE THAT BINDS

How blest the sacred tie that binds,  
In sweet communion, kindred minds,  
How swift the heav'nly course they run,  
Whose hearts, and faith, and hopes are one!

To each, the soul of each how dear!  
What watchful love, what holy fear!  
How doth the gen'rous flame within  
Refine from earth and cleanse from sin!

Their streaming eyes together flow  
For human guilt and mortal woe;  
Their ardent pray'rs together rise,  
Like mingling flames in sacrifice.

They're one in life and one in death —  
One in their joy, their trust, their faith;  
One in their hope of rest above,  
One in each other's faithful love.

Nor shall the glowing flame expire,  
When dimly burns frail nature's fire;  
For they shall live when time is o'er  
In peace and joy for evermore.

- Mrs. Anna L. Barbould

## THE BACKSLIDERS FALL

There are various reasons why some do not continue in the Christian life. The reasons are as varied as the people themselves. Often the lack of understanding and commitment by the backslider or the presence of animosity within the Church are reasons for this problem. Blame is often put upon his fellow members for their real or supposed neglect of this one. The true reason may lie within the backslider, within others or it may be a combination.

The backslider, like many who fail to achieve their goals, will have many excuses to offer as his reasons. These excuses can run from the circumstances of his birth through all sort of adverse conditions throughout his life. His favorite word is "if." If he had had certain advantages that others enjoyed. If he had made different choices. If everything or everybody hadn't been opposed to him. His statements could go on endlessly, ever excusing himself for his failure. God is often blamed by those who fail, whether in temporal or spiritual endeavors.

It is easy to blame others for real or supposed wrongs. It is harder to overcome adversities and achieve despite these setbacks. The Apostle Paul was challenged by Christ with the statement, "it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks." The Christian life never will be easy. It requires an effort in a world given over to pleasure and selfgratification. The strait and narrow way is directly contrary to the broad, effortless and sensual highway of the world. Jesus, Himself, urged each to count the cost. The world is unwilling to pay the price, but the reward for that price will make the cost seem small by comparison.

It is easy to give up. It is hard to continue on even when there are

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****JUNE 1, 1981**

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

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real wrongs to be borne. The Christian (Christ's one) has Jesus as a noble example of one willing to suffer wrongfully. He was without sin, yet He died the sinner's death on Calvary. He died in the place of Barabbas, a thief and murderer but He bore there our sins as well. His suffering was more than the horrible, physical suffering of the crucifixion; His greatest burden was the sin of mankind. Yet He was willing to drink that cup of suffering although it did not belong to Him. There have been many who have paid a dear price for their commitment to Christ. It was not easy for them but they considered the eternal results of their decisions. They realized it was easier to suffer wrongfully and dearly, than to suffer eternally by taking the easy way out in this life.

The backslider finds others to blame. Even if he has been wronged, he must realize that he controls his own destiny. He dare not allow the mistakes of others to deter him from his goal. No worthwhile goal, in this life or Beyond, will be attained easily. There will be unpleasant episodes along the way but overcoming them will make the goal attainable.

The backslider's fall usually comes slowly. It is not sudden, but made up of little incidents. He will miss services, occasionally perhaps to entertain company. Soon he will be absent more and more, until he will hardly be seen at all. He will slowly change his behaviour, at first his departures from the Church's order will be slight but before long he will be out of order. As his outward actions are modified, his thinking will also be changing, until by the time his appearance belies his change of heart, he will have a new doctrine or reasoning to support his change in life style.

The Church is composed of people, so there will be mistakes and problems to overcome. We recognize that all, including Christians, make mistakes. Recognizing this, one can not give up on the Christian way of life. At the judgment bar of God, we will not be asked to give an account of anyone else's life. We will however be accountable for our own. Despite the discouragement that comes because of others' failures, we dare not take refuge in their failure as a justification for our own. God will hold us solely accountable for our own deeds. There will be no "ifs" "ands" or "buts" when standing before God.

To fail because of others failures is a tragedy, because it shows not only the weakness of the others, who are human, but it shows our own weakness in allowing ourselves to be so easily moved from the Christian pathway. Do not adopt the backslider's lament. Live for God no matter what others do.

## PROMISES AND REWARDS

"My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips." Psalms 89:34. This is a promise that parents everywhere can claim in behalf of their children. The burden of many fathers and mothers tonight is their concern about the welfare of their children. It is an unwelcome truth that many children of Christian parents are unsaved. Comparatively few are being trained in the right way and many are being lost to the Church. Many parents no doubt sit at home and sadly repeat the old song, "Where is my wandering boy tonight."

What can we do about it? Does our concern and love bring us to our knees? We think of our failures in the past in leading them in the right way. Oh! is there some way to redeem them? There is no other but God's way.

Dear fathers and mothers, "And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Gal. 3:29. "And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee." Gen. 17:7. One condition for the fulfillment of this great promise was indicated by the Lord when He said of Abraham, "For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him," Gen. 18:19. To ratify this, the Lord gave to Abraham the token of a covenant between two parties. God could swear by no greater so he swear by himself. "I will be a God to thee, and to thy seed after thee," and "... Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness." Rom. 4:3.

It never was God's thought that the Hebrews should live for themselves or to themselves. He expands His thought; "... In thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." This is His thought still, "I will bless thee... and thou shalt be a blessing." Gen. 12:2-3. "Observe and hear all these words which I command thee, that it may be well with thee, and with thy children after thee for ever." Deut. 12:28a. "I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring." Isa. 44:3b. Let us like this promise with Peter's declaration "For the promise is unto you, and your children." Acts 2:39. Press boldly to the Throne of Grace that our children, as well as ourselves, shall possess this gift of the Holy Spirit.

To spiritually comprehend these covenant promises is to give parents great boldness in going to God for their families. Yet some hesitate to thus boldly go to the Throne of Grace with the needs of their children, saying, "These promises are all to the Jews." God

himself gives the denial to this through Peter who declares, "The promise is unto you and your children." Acts 2:39. Is it not true, "We have not, because we ask not." James 4:2. The Holy Ghost bade Peter to tell Cornelius, whereby he and all his house shall be saved. Acts 11:14. And when the Philippian Jailer cried out, "What must I do to be saved." Paul replied, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house." Acts 16:30-31. The Bible is full of promises, but faith must lay hold of every promise.

If we have failed to bring our children up in the admonition and fear of the Lord, if they are not now living for God, we have nothing to do but humble ourselves before God and confess we have failed Him and go to our children also, looking to the Lord for grace and wisdom, and do all we can to make amends. Then come to God with the promise. A widow was greatly exercised in prayer for her children, the Spirit impressed her to plead the promise found in Jer. 49:11. She took God at His word, rested in His promise and saw all her children saved. The Faith of Noah, made perfect by works, saved his family and with his family saved the race. Heb. 11:7.

Our life must all be by faith. Faith is making way for God in our life. When the vision tarries and the promises appear to fail, faith understands this only to trust God more completely and more confidently. Luke 18:1-8; Rom. 9:25. There is no substitute for a mother dedicated to the saving of her family. Christian partners who chastise, teach and pray with their children will have no regrets in later years. "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old he will not depart from it." Prov. 22:6. This is the reward we so earnestly desire.

Brother L. A. Shumake

## IF YOU DON'T CHEW GUM

"We don't allow boys and girls to come to Church if they chewed gum." This statement was made to a group of children to impress upon them what their behavior should be in a Church service, according to the speaker's personal convictions. It was made about children who came to a Mission Bible school in another country. What the teacher was really saying was, if you're good first, THEN you can come to Church!

You, too, may consider it improper to chew gum or do certain other things at a Church, but before you become too critical of others, think about what causes anyone's behavior. Respect for the Lord, as well as many other attitudes, are learned. It is not something we are born with. Proper behavior will come only as a result of developing proper attitudes. Merely laying out a set of rules will not solve anything; it just brings about a temporary change.

Just because someone doesn't abide by your standards is no sign you are right and he is wrong. Christian principles must be the basis for teaching proper behavior, not personal opinions. Motives and knowledge must be considered also, lest you expect too much from someone who doesn't know any better. Sure, it may raise a few eyebrows when someone arrives at a worship service in improper attire, but if you are patient, God will take care of that. One young woman (not a Christian) said if she were not loved and wanted in what she had on, she wouldn't be loved any more in something else. She's probably right.

Good conduct and proper attire is to be expected of those who know the Lord, but what about someone raised without Christian training and discipline? Is such a person to be excluded from worship services? Surely God wants all in spiritual need to be at the services and have every opportunity to learn of Christ. I doubt that His major concern is whether they chew gum or not, so why get upset over their "minor transgressions?"

When the disciples asked who was the greatest in the kingdom of Heaven, Jesus called a little child unto Him (Matt. 18:1-6). Do you think He selected the cleanest one, or the one with the best manners? Not necessarily, as Jesus was teaching humility, not etiquette. We may turn away someone who doesn't look good to us or doesn't act very nice and miss seeing the spiritual potential, if we're not careful. Jesus forgave and healed and encouraged on the basis of their needs and His love, not on the basis of how good they were when He met them. He knew the heart's need must be considered first, not what you see on the outside.

If you criticize and put a chill on someone's eagerness to learn of Christ, then YOU have a problem and you need to stop and think. You have no right to say who's fit to enter a Church building and who isn't. If people can't come there freely to learn of Christ, where will they learn? Jesus ate with publicans and sinners, those who really needed Him (Matt. 9:10). According to the Pharisees, they were anything but desirable people and to associate with them was unthinkable. However, Jesus looked at their need and potential, not just their sinful state. He knew many would seek a better way of life, if given a little time and the proper instruction.

"But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain." I Cor. 15:10a. It is grace which makes the difference in your life and makes you what you are. You have nothing at all to brag about. If you hadn't received God's grace, you would be just like anyone else in sin. You might not be ill-mannered, dirty and sloppy, but nice clothes, a clean body and good manners won't make you any better than others. It takes God's grace and a changed heart to make you what you should be.

Under the Law, physically imperfect men were not allowed to serve as priests. There was a rigid system of worship, sacrifices and responsibilities. Lepers were cut off from society; those with other ailments had to follow various rules for cure and cleansing before they could participate in worship. There were many barriers beyond which the ordinary person could not go in worship. The coming of Christ changed this and He opened doors which previously were closed. Both Jews and Gentiles were offered salvation, whether rich or poor, clean or dirty, sick or well.

There are no more barriers, but if we exclude someone from Church services, we are erecting barriers. The Pharisees also erected barriers. "Then the Pharisees and scribes asked him, Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashed hands?" Mark 7:5. The Pharisees would never have eaten with dirty hands and they thought they were too good to associate with anyone who did so. This was their rule, not God's, and they were more concerned about dirty bodies than sinful hearts. What is your concern?

In our day, the Pharisees might say, "Why didn't you wash before you came to Church? Don't you know we don't chew gum here? Why don't you dress more decently?" Proper behavior and respect will not come without some basic Christian teaching. Even that is not enough, for no one is at his best without Christ. If you have someone who needs alot of teaching, be patient. Pay attention to the heart's needs first and give gentle encouragement toward good behavior. Don't be anxious about whether or not he chews gum.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## THE "GOSPEL" OF PEACE

In Galatians 1:8 we read, "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed."

We are concerned and feel that the Brethren and Sisters (especially the young ones) should be made aware of a new "gospel" which is being presented in the historic peace churches.

The TRUE gospel is that Jesus Christ was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, shed his blood for the remission of our sins, (this is symbolized by the act of baptism which also includes the next statement), rose bodily from the grave and ascended to Heaven to be our advocate. This was followed by the sending of the Holy Spirit, who indwells every true believer.

We believe that one of the natural outgrowths of a true born again experience will be the acceptance of biblical nonresistance. While we would hesitate to determine an individual's salvation on the basis of acceptance or rejection of this doctrine, we fail to see

how any honest, seeking student of the New Testament can come up with anything less. At the same time let us keep in mind that non-resistance is not THE GOSPEL.

Those who would have you believe that peace is the ULTIMATE teaching of the scriptures use the word "pacifism" in lieu of "non-resistance." To replace the TRUE GOSPEL with the "gospel of peace" leaves us with the same concern written by Paul in II Corinthians 11:3-4, "But I fear lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him."

We feel this is a real warning for those who are defending the true peace position of the scriptures against those who would make Jesus Christ a supporter of Christians using carnal weapons and warfare to "defend their nation." The Jesus of the scriptures did not preach peace at any cost! Such organizations as the Fellowship of Reconciliation are infiltrating the historic peace churches with the message that Christianity must join other religions in the efforts of peace. This is a lie from Satan and is a step towards the "superchurch" which the Bible speaks of in the end times. Satan is, of course, the "another spirit" which Paul is speaking of. As we stated before, "the gospel of peace" is a counterfeit for the TRUE GOSPEL and could very well fit into the "another gospel" which Paul speaks of.

Those who support the "gospel of peace" also distort the biblical teaching on love. The early apostles were filled with the love of Christ for the Jews of their day, as well as for those who worshipped the "unknown god" and those who followed false teachers. They showed this love by following Christ's command given in Matthew 28:19-20, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: ..." They did not join in with the false teachings but led those, they could, to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Those who have the true love of Christ do the same today.

We would encourage each and every one of us to search the scriptures for the truth of Christ and let the Holy Spirit lead us each day of our lives. Let us contend for the faith and desire to be the pure Bride of Christ. This is truly a time of much confusion within the church. Without being judgmental, let us hold fast to that which is true.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, Pa. 17078

## **THE CHILDREN'S PAGE**

### **THE UPPER ROOM**

Luke 14:7-11

Do you like to have people speak well of you — to get praise for a work well done — to have honor in the sight of men? I believe most people do; it is only human nature to be that way. If this is what you want, Jesus has shown us how it should be done.

The Pharisees were a class of people who liked the praise of men very much. They would stand on the street corners or in the market place and recite long prayers to show how righteous they were. Do you know what Jesus called these people? He called them hypocrites; they were like whitewashed sepulchers which appeared nice and clean on the outside but inside they were full of all manner of uncleanness. If we would appear good outside, we should get clean inside first. Good thoughts and concern for others can help us to be clean inside.

Jesus gave an illustration about those who were invited to a wedding. The well-to-do Jews had special rooms for special people. These surrounded a courtyard where the wedding took place. They were on a balcony and were open on the side next to the court. If you were in one of these upper rooms, you had a good view of the bride and groom and it was a great honor to be seated there. There were also rooms below, under the upper rooms. They were less desirable and it was difficult to see the wedding.

Jesus said, "When you are invited to a wedding, don't go to the highest room and take the best seat because it might be that the one who invited you had a more honorable person in mind for that place. He would come to you and say to you, 'Give this man your place', and you would begin with shame to take the lowest room. Instead of taking the highest room you should sit in the lowest room and the poorest seat you can find; then, when the one who invited you saw you there, he would say, 'Friend, go up higher'; then you would have the praise of men. Whosoever exalteth himself should be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted."

Jesus taught that to be humble it is necessary for us to learn how to live and respect those around us. We can all understand that even in our work — the jobs we do, it is first necessary to start at the bottom and accept the lowest pay until we learn how to do the work efficiently. It is essential to do this way in our natural occupations and it is even more so in our spiritual lives.

For the Christian, humility is a necessary virtue all the time. To come up higher — to take our place in the upper room — comes only after this life is over — when Jesus calls us home to Heaven.

Brother Rudy Cover

## WHAT IS WRONG WITH TELEVISION?

What is wrong with television? What if anything is RIGHT about it? That anyone claiming to support Jesus Christ could honestly defend such an idiot box is unthinkable.

It is a simple fact that television supports anything and everything contrary to the teachings of righteousness. Cartoons for children display violence every fifteen seconds. So called family programs honor the good guy who manages to take advantage of the bad guy. Divorce is portrayed as a respectable avenue to dump an unloving wife. Sex replaces love. Money is the way to happiness. Christians are cast upon the screen as religious "nuts". Dishonesty is excused if it is for a good cause. What parents can successfully teach their children the sanctity of marriage while subjecting them to the steady influence of a machine that makes divorce and premarital relationships both common and seemingly honorable? How is such an invention to the honor and glory of God? Where is it Spiritually edifying? It can not be!

DEVILVISION, as it should rightfully be called, is one of the worst instruments of foolish seduction ever invented by Satan to produce dull-witted slaves in bondage to idolatry, insensibility, wasted time, wasted money, and family communication problems.

Families actually spend hundreds and thousands of dollars to purchase televisions and accessories, so they can blast away for hours at a time totally captivating the minds of their audience, pounding into their poor brains one worldly notion after another to the disruption of peace, creating childish arguments over who is going to watch what programs, not to mention the added struggle of putting the children to bed. What marvelous disorder is produced by the boob tube and to think it can be purchased in color for only \$500 to \$1,000. That certainly is some bargain. Since every one is so involved in the television, Mother no longer has to worry about making such good meals because no one will have time to sit around and eat together as a family anyway. They can each grab something out of the cupboard between commercials. Of course some families have found a way to prevent so many family arguments caused by the television, but it does cost a little more money. Each person has a separate set in his or her own room. But that is a small price to pay to live in peace with your own war movie, to be able to listen quietly to all that noise.

But in all seriousness, what is the price that must really be paid? Television's advanced technology has produced a subconscious form of advertisement that can hypnotize the listener into actions they would not otherwise perform. In the wrong hands such a system could be disastrous. Television also generates rays harmful both to the eyes and to the body in general. Scientific experiments

have indicated that television produces anxiety, an obstruction to peace in Christ.

It can not be denied that daily contact with such a monster has but detrimental effects, creating levity in the place of Christian gravity, distracting the mind and the Spirit from worthwhile pursuits, making noise to disturb the inward breathings of the "still small voice of God", destroying time together as a family, constantly influencing our children and ourselves harmfully, through the continuous stream of filthy trash and satanic principles thrown at the viewer as though it were completely honorable. Television produces a useless world of fantasy and prejudice.

What good, if any, that might come from television can not weigh nearly enough to warrant the possession of such an obvious instrument of spiritual destruction. The Scriptures mention that the appearance of evil should be avoided. But let it be clear to any professor of religion that television not only appears evil, but it is unquestionably evil through and through. Of what honor is it to God or benefit to ourselves to watch what is directly contrary to the principles of righteousness? Television has such an unnatural drawing power that it is extremely dangerous. People may kid themselves by thinking they possess their television, but the television has them in its possession and control.

Television is the communicant of spiritual disease in a fast becoming, if not already, sick society. Christ is the Physician to cure this very deceiving yet powerful weapon of Satan. It is discouraging that any so-called Christian could defend an item so absolutely at odds with the Life in Christ.

Stuart Banister  
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Goshen, Indiana 46526

## THE DEVIL'S VISION

The devil once said to his demons below:

"Our work is progressing entirely too slow:

The Holiness people stand in our way

Since they don't believe in the show or the play.

They teach that the carnival, circus and the dance,

The tavern and honky-tonk with game of chance

Drinking and smoking, these things are all wrong,

That Christians don't mix with the ungodly throng.

They are quick to condemn everything that we do:

To cause unbelievers to be not a few.

They claim that these things are all of the devil;

That Christian folk live on a much higher level

Now fellows, their theology, while perfectly true  
Is blocking the work we are trying to do.  
We will have to get busy and figure a plan  
That will change their standards as fast as we can.

Now I have a vision of what we can do.  
Harken... I'll tell this deception to you;  
Then find me a wise, but degenerate man  
Whom I can use to help work out this plan.  
There is nothing so real as the thing you can see.  
The eyes and the mind and the heart will agree.  
So what can be better than an object to view?  
I say it will work, and convince not a few.

The home is the place for this sinful device,  
The people deceived will think it quite nice.  
The world will possess it, most Christians can't tell  
That it's all of the devil and was plotted in Hell.  
We will sell them with pictures of the latest news  
And while they are looking we will advertise booze.  
At the soul damning cigarette also they will look,  
Until they forget what God says in His Book.

At first it will shock them, they will seem in a haze;  
But soon they will be hardened and continue to gaze.  
We will give them some gospel that isn't too strong,  
And a few sacred songs to string them along.  
They will take in the ads with the latest of fashions  
And soon watch the shows that stir evil passions.  
Murder and love-making scenes they'll behold,  
Until in their souls, they will be bitterly cold.

The Old Family Altar which once held such charm  
Will soon lose its place without much alarm.  
Praying in secret will also be lost  
As they look at the screen without counting the cost.  
The compromise preachers who don't take their stand,  
Will embrace this new vision and think it is grand.  
They will help fool the people and cause them to sin  
By seeking this evil and taking it in.

Influence is great, and this you can see,  
Just look at my fall and you'll have to agree.  
It won't take too long, my demons, to tell  
That the vision of Satan will populate Hell.  
Divorce will increase, sex crimes will abound,  
Much innocent blood will be spilled on the ground.  
The home will be damned, in short order I say,  
When this vision of mine comes in to stay.

Get busy, my cohorts, and put this thing out,  
We will see if The Church can continue to shout.  
The holiness people who stand in our way,  
Will soon hush their crying against show and play.  
We will cover the earth with this Devil Vision  
Though we'll camouflage it with the name Television  
The people will think they are getting a treat,  
While the Anti-Christ laughs at their defeat.

He will then rule the world while the viewers behold,  
The face of HIM to whom they were sold.  
We will win through deception, this cannot fail,  
Though some holiness preachers against it will rail.  
But holiness, modesty, discipleship, I'm sure,  
Will soon lose their values; and sin will allure.  
Many millions of viewers new sins will embrace  
To soothe them and hurry them on to this place.

- Writer Unknown

Selected by Sister Ruth Drake



## DEATH'S MARK

George Moir, an eminently godly man, after having been worn out by a long and painful illness, was told by his wife that the change of his countenance indicated the speedy approach of death. "Does it?" he replied. "Bring me a glass." On looking at himself in the mirror, he was struck with the resemblance to a corpse which he saw in his countenance. Giving the glass back he said, with calm satisfaction, "Death has not set his mark upon my body, Christ has set His mark upon my soul."



It must be the settled purpose and intention of your heart to will nothing, design nothing, do nothing, but so far as there is reason to believe that it is the will of God.

It is as great rebellion against God to think that your will may ever rightly differ from His as it would be to boast in His universe that you have not received the power of willing from Him. You are therefore to consider yourself as a being that has no other business in the world but to be that which God requires you to be; to have no desires, to seek no self-ends, but to fill that place and act that part which the divine pleasure has ordained. To think that you are your own, or at your own disposal, is as absurd as to think that you created yourself.

- Anonymous

Selected by Sister Eileen Broadwater

## DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

### Part 18

We have been studying the Fifth Dispensation of the World. In our last few articles we have been studying the "Times of the Gentiles and their Dominions," beginning in the days of the Prophets to the dispersion of God's chosen people Israel. We have now arrived in our discussion of Daniel's visions and interpretation of dreams, to his visions of the fourth kingdom or Empire, ruled by Gentile Nations. Daniel saw the kings of these kingdoms as "beasts." Daniel 7:17.

We have seen the four heads of the "leopard beast," the third of Daniel's visions. (Daniel 7) In conclusion of this account, let us note Daniel 8:22, which speaks of the "notable horn" that was to be broken off, before we take up our study of the fourth beast, or Empire. "Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation (meaning the Grecian nation), but not in his power." (Meaning not in Alexander the Great's power).

In studying the account of this fourth "beast", which we believe to be the "Roman Empire," let us begin at the first, and return to Daniel 2:40 to get the conclusion of the account of the image of Nebuchadnezzar's dream and it's interpretation. "And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these (kingdoms or Empires, Dan. 7:17) shall it break in pieces, (in the days of Imperial Rome) and bruise." This symbolizes the Roman Empire, as the fourth beast, revealed to Daniel in his vision of 7:7-8. "After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns. I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things."

Dear Reader, we remind you that these two verses, as we understand prophecy, and the revelation of Jesus Christ, reveal the general coverage of the history of the Old Roman Empire (Imperial Rome), and also is figurative, symbolical, or a revelation of the revised Roman Empire, which the New Testament reveals, through Jesus Christ, will appear or take place in the seventieth week of Daniel's vision of Dan. 9:24-27.

To be continued  
Brother William Root

## NEWS ITEM

### MECHANICSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The Mechanicsburg Dunkard Brethren Church plans to hold a revival from June 19 to 28, 1981. Brother Berton Smith from Goshen, Indiana Congregation is scheduled to be with us for this meeting. Please pray for these meetings that God's Will be done. All are welcome.

Sister Mary Hartz, Cor.

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JUNE

June 7 — Peter Meets Cornelius - Acts 10:19-33.

June 14 — "God Is No Respector of Persons" - Acts 10:34-48.

June 21 — FATHER'S DAY - Gen. 27:18-40.

June 28 — TEMPERANCE - I Cor. 9:1-27.

### QUESTIONS:

- (1) What had God made known to Peter about the Gentiles? - Acts 10:28.
- (2) God is no respecter of persons. Under the Gospel who is accepted with God? Acts 10:35.
- (3) Peter preached to Cornelius and his friends that whosoever believeth in the name of Jesus shall receive remission of sins. What great thing happened to the gentiles that astonished the Jewish brethren that came with Peter? Acts 10:44, 45.
- (4) After the Holy Ghost was poured out on the Gentiles, at the house of Cornelius, what did Peter command them to do? Acts 10:48.
- (5) Why do you think Jacob lied to his father? Gen. 25:23.
- (6) What class of people did Paul say must be temperate in all things? I Cor. 9:25.



## TRUE SHADE SHELTER

A Chinese convert once illustrated the folly of self-righteousness as follows: "How can a man trust in his own righteousness? It is like seeking shelter under one's own shadow: We may stoop to the very ground, and the lower we bend, we still find that our shadow is beneath us. But if a man flee to the shadow of a great rock or a wide-spreading tree, he will find shelter from the noon-day sun. So human merits are unavailing, and Christ alone is able to save to the uttermost."

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Paul R. Myers  
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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

JUNE 15, 1981

NO. 12

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## "SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT"

Are you an active member,  
The kind that would be missed;  
Or are you just contented  
That your name be on the list?

Do you attend the meetings  
And mingle with the flock;  
Or do you stay at home  
And criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part  
To help the work along;  
Or are you satisfied to be  
The kind that just belongs?

Do you ever go to visit  
A member who is sick?  
Or leave the work to just a few  
And talk about the "clique."

Think this over, member  
You know right from wrong;  
Are you an active member  
Or do you just belong?

- Selected by Brother Paul Eberly

## FOOLISHNESS AND WEAKNESS

Read I Corinthians 1:18-31.

The Greeks prized wisdom highly. Whatever did not meet their standard of education, reason or logic was deemed to be foolishness. Because the Jews had suffered adversity many times, they valued strength. Both rejected the preaching of Paul.

His preaching seemed to one foolish and to the other, weak. Perhaps Paul's personal appearance and speech gave the impression of weakness. The content of his speaking was not according to the wisdom of the world. It was not Paul, alone, that was rejected, it was the Gospel. Against their own best interest, they despised the preaching of the cross, which was neither wise nor strong.

Paul preached the Gospel. The crucifixion as the center of that Gospel was especially rejected. The cross of Christ was more than the death of a criminal near Jerusalem. That cross encompasses the thought of the virgin birth, the sinless life, substitutionary death and victorious resurrection of Jesus Christ. That cross appeared to the Greeks as foolishness. How could God sacrifice His Only Son for sinful, unappreciative men? How could a sacrifice have life again and offer life to all who would follow? This certainly seemed foolish to such wise men as the Greeks. The cross seemed weak to the Jews. They had suffered much and had resisted their enemies mightily. Why had He not resisted His captors? Why did He allow Pilate to exercise authority over Him? The cross seemed to be a picture of weakness.

The preaching of the cross was not for them. They wanted wise and strong things. Little did they realize that in these weak and

THE BIBLE MONITOR

JUNE 15, 1981

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

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foolish things there was more strength and wisdom than in their own philosophies. The power of God was revealed through that cross. Not only did Jesus have victory over death, Hell and grave but through the cross sinful men could be cleansed and become the sons of God, with not only an heritage behind them but an inheritance before them.

Today not only is the message of the preacher considered foolish and old fashioned, but preaching itself is considered foolish. Preaching has been replaced in many Churches by dialogues, dramatics, movies, banquets and sports. Preaching is dull and unentertaining so something more appealing to the natural man must be found to replace it. Despite the early success of the various other methods to attract a crowd, soon the power of each one will wane unless something greater replaces it.

Despite the supposed failure of preaching, it remains the only method of publicly proclaiming the Gospel that has been ordained by God. It may be despised but it is God given. Since it is given by the God of all power it is powerful no matter the world's opinion.

Perhaps preaching appears foolish to many because there is so much preaching of foolishness today. Not only are jokes and stories and sports reports the standard fare in many pulpits but unscriptural teachings concerning the plan of salvation, the ordinances and Christian living are a part of the foolishness. The preverting of the Word of God is the most foolish course any person can follow. The message of the ministry is not the latest gossip, the ball games outcome, the latest joke or the snappiest retort. The true, vital message of the ministry is the cross of Christ and its power to renew lives.

The preaching of the Gospel is not a haphazard matter. The public preaching of the Gospel is entrusted to those who have been set aside by the Church for that purpose. A minister can not be self-appointed, but must await the call of the Church, even though he is confident that God has called him to preach. This may appear weak and foolish. It would seem wise to let all go forth who would. God's sanction is only upon those the Church sends out. When each goes out in his own authority, there soon are many voices, each teaching a different thing, since none are amenable to the Church.

The necessity for each to await the call of the Church may appear foolish on the surface but the humility and submission, thus exercised will make that Christian stronger and wiser. If he can learn to overlook himself, then he will have learned from the example of Jesus, which will further prepare him for life, whether called to preach or not. The preaching of the Gospel is a serious business, it is not for the weak and foolish. But weakness and foolishness are not always as they appear to the world.

The weakness and foolishness of God is greater than the strength and the wisdom of this world. God's way, whatever the world's opinion, is the right way.

The preaching of the Gospel is ordained of God. Although it is dispised by the world, remember it is the power of God unto salvation.

## THE THORN

Once I heard a song of sweetness  
As it cleft the morning air,  
Sounding in its blest completeness  
Like a tender, pleading prayer;  
And I sought to find the singer  
Whence the wondrous song was born;  
Till I found a bird, sore wounded,  
Pinioned by an ugly thorn.  
I have seen a soul of sadness  
While its wings with pain were furled,  
Giving hope and cheer and gladness  
That should bless the weeping world;  
Soon I learned a life of sweetness  
Was of pain and sorrow born,  
For that stricken soul was singing  
With its heart against a thorn!  
You are told of One who loves you,  
And a spear that pierced His side;  
You are told of a cruel scourging;  
Of a Savior bearing scorn,  
And He died for your salvation  
With His brow against the thorn.  
You are not above the Master!  
Will you breath a sweet refrain?  
Then His grace will be sufficient  
When your heart is pierced with pain;  
Will you live to bless His loved ones  
Though your life be bruised and torn,  
Like a bird that sang so sweetly  
With its heart against a thorn?

- Unknown

The thorns of this world are getting thicker and stronger. The thorns are surrounding our people, especially the "new" born again Christians. Many of these people are our young people and they rebel against the thorn. If they care for the thorn it will turn

into a beautiful rose. How are new Christians to know about this thorn? We need the prayers of many people. Many young people need guidance to go through a day with worldly people.

As the only plainly dressed Christian in Elizabethtown College I find it very hard not to go with the things of the world. The television, dances, and alcohol are right at my finger tips. It is hard to be the only one to say "no", but God rewarded me for saying "NO!"

There should be no reason for our young people to be losing their care for God. If they are living in a Christian home, the parents should try to keep the worldly things out of their lives. Many prayers are not being said for these young people and they are drifting away. As it says in I Timothy 4:12 "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity."

Let us quit condemning the young people and start blessing them. Those who are alone in a world of unbelievers, send your prayers and love, but do not forget the ones in your own Church.

No matter how big the thorn, temptation, or trial may be, just remember that God is doing it for your own good. Even though roses have thorns, they are still beautiful.

Sister Mabel Sweitzer

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## **WHAT IS A FATHER?**

### **A Mother? - A Child?**

Many people give special regard to Father in June, after Mother's special time of remembrance in May. These days are set aside for special honor to parents, but they certainly are not the only time parents are to be remembered and respected for what they are. Whenever you remember your parents, let it be because you love and cherish them, not just because it's a day set aside for them. If you are disrespectful and unloving the rest of the year, that one day will be just a meaningless formality.

Why didn't I just ask "what is a family"? Certainly a father, mother and child make a family unit. They are to be a complete unit, parted only by death or other events beyond human control. These three have a special need of each other, a special responsibility to each other, which can't be fulfilled outside of God's plan. But oftentimes, these three persons are not a unit. Sometimes father is missing, sometimes mother is, and in other instances, a child is somewhere else. Let's think about each person and consider why they need to be together.

What is a father? The dictionary says "he who begets a child; a male parent. One who feeds and supports, or exercises paternal care over another. An adoptive father is one who adopts the child of another, and acknowledges and treats him as his own." This all sounds simple enough, as it speaks mostly of the physical relationship, but is that all a father is?

A father is subject to mistakes, fatigue, and impatience. A father may blunder through life on his own, just doing the best he can, or he can commit his life to Christ and receive strength to carry out his duties. A father is a human being responsible to God, first for himself, then for those entrusted to his care. As Moses' burden in caring for the children of Israel alone was too great, so a father's family burden is too great to bear alone. He needs the Lord's help right from the start to insure good results.

Now, what is a mother? The dictionary says she is "a female parent; a woman who has borne a child. Also to adopt as a son or daughter; to be as a mother toward." Again, the physical relationship is stressed, but we know being a mother, especially a good mother, involves more than that. A mother is not just someone to do the cooking, keep the house clean and so forth. She has an active and vital part in training a child, in determining the outcome of his or her life.

Mothers are noted for praying for their children and for taking an interest in their activities which seem trivial to others. She is concerned for her family's welfare, both naturally and spiritually. She, too, needs help from the Lord if she is to succeed in her unique responsibilities. As Hannah poured out her soul to the Lord, so must each mother pray for her children and commit them unto the Lord.

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Prov. 22:6. "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath; but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Eph. 6:4. These two verses sum up the parents' responsibility to a child. This training involves both the parents, not just the father, or just the mother, and must be started when the child is very young. Either parent can be an influence for good or for evil and both are responsible to God for what they teach and the example they set before their children. For examples, read II Chron. 22:3 and 26:4.

A child is "a son or daughter. Also one weak in knowledge or experience, judgment." A child is more than a little person who can turn a house upside down in no time, or one who doesn't like peaches "because they are yellow." "Lo, children are a heritage of the Lord." Psa. 127:3a. They, too, have a spiritual responsibility, to

their parents and to God, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother." Eph. 6:1, 2a. "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth." Ecc. 12:1. Children are to look to the Lord, to honor and obey their parents, starting when they are very young. None of this is an option.

"Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them. Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well-pleasing unto the Lord. Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged." Col. 3:18-21. Only by recognizing your spiritual responsibilities are you able to have the proper husband-wife relationship, the proper parent-child relationship. As you consider what a father, a mother or a child is, consider also what God expects of you. Put Him first in your life, then you can be what you should be.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Musical instruments have been used by popular churches for a great number of years. Those who do, claim they are of value in promoting Spiritual experiences. Most feel it is a natural method by which to praise God. All fairly well establish their opinion on the writings of David.

Too many people take easily misinterpreted Scripture as their foundation for doctrine and then try to bend other Scriptures to fit them. However, Scripture easy to understand should be our guide, allowing prophetic passages, figurative portions, parables, and questionable quotations for their support.

Examining the Psalms and comparing them with other Scripture, it is easy to see that much of David's writings are figurative and are but a shadow pointing to the Spiritual Kingdom of Christ. David writes, "Let them praise His Name with timbrel and harp... Let the high praises of God be in their mouth and a two edged SWORD in their hand... To BIND THEIR KINGS WITH CHAINS, AND THEIR NOBLES WITH FETTERS OF IRON." Those taking the timbrel and harp in a literal sense should also bind kings with chains! Is it not more reasonable to believe that these Scriptures speak of the age in which the Christian through the Blood of Christ shall conquer sin and its evil powers (binding kings) and a time in which our hearts shall be filled with Spiritual joy (with timbrel and harp)" ... making melody in your heart." Ephesians 5:19.

We have no mention of the Christians use of music in the Biblical record, nor do we have authority by precept or command. Music is

without Scriptural precedent. On the contrary, we do have Scripture which gives us to understand the EVIL of music, its natural rather than Spiritual effect, prophecy of its condemnation, and music used as an Old Testament shadow rather than the substance. Woe to them that invent instruments of music LIKE DAVID. Amos 6:6. It is also to be noted importantly that the Scriptures specifically point out that music was invented by a spiritual descendant of Cain, Genesis 4:21; and that although song was of God, music was ORDAINED BY DAVID. II Chron. 29:27.

Although David was a man after God's own heart, yet he was not permitted to build the House of the Lord because he was a man of war. I Chronicles 28:3. David also committed murder. Certainly these things had their Scriptural significance but such things are not justifiable unto us. So with music (and binding kings)! However those who in support of music in the worship of God might also consider HOLY WAR as the Catholics and many Protestants have done. There is hardly any church in existence that uses music which does not also go to war. The two go together.

We find in I Samuel 16 the purely NATURAL effects of music to the detriment of the Spiritual. Saul who was troubled of the Lord sought a harp to refresh his flesh, to soothe his conscience rather than repent. "... They that worship God must worship in Spirit..." John 4:24. How is it some have claimed to have worshipped God with musical instruments and received Spiritual experiences, when the Apostle Paul compares Spiritual deadness to the sounds of musical instruments, I Corinthians 13:1 and 14:7? The validity of such a so-called Spiritual experience, contrary to sound Scriptural teachings, is to be doubted. Music has no place in Spiritual worship... "Neither is worshipped with men's hands as though He needed anything." Acts 7:47-50; 17:24-30.

If all that has so far been written were not enough, there would still be reason to be suspicious and cautious of instrumental worship and such would demand its avoidance according to I Thessalonians 5:22. Why does music "appear" evil? It tends to draw attention to itself through its natural beauty, distracts our thoughts from the meaning of words being sung, serves to entertain ourselves rather than glorify God, disturbs the inward breathings of the "still small voice", and instruments of music are an expensive LUXURY (gold in the temple) whereby much money is wasted that could be better used.

Regarding secular music there can be little argument. It serves the flesh and has no place in honoring God. It has no place in the Christian life. Colossians 3:17.

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## "PILATE AND HIS WIFE"

Your message arrived, but, my dear, can't you see--  
I had talked to the crowd, they were TURNING on me  
They demanded the death of the Man standing there  
In quiet submission, so peaceful, so fair--  
I cannot forget it, His eyes unafraid  
Awaiting my answer — and — I think that He prayed  
I looked at His Face, and there I could see  
In His eyes there was pity — pity for ME.

My dear, had I known the sorrow I'd feel  
Not a wink have I slept... nor eaten a meal  
I've been half out of my mind, physically ill  
My heart HAD rebelled, it wasn't MY will  
That throng had ME frightened, the INSULTS they flung  
I think they'd have mobbed me... maybe cut out my tongue!  
Oh... I know that's not true... I was perfectly free---  
But I can't shake that look... of pity for ME.

If He'd only defended Himself in SOME way  
But no, like a Lamb... He had nothing to say  
So WHY should MY heart be as heavy as lead  
I'm possessed with such guilt, I wish I were dead  
I'm PILATE! A GOVERNOR! With men to command!  
So WHY should ONE person bring grief I can't stand?  
I washed both my hands so I could feel free  
But glancing again... I saw PITY for ME.

I never supposed I was choosing MY fate!  
T'was He whom they hated, I was one of the great!  
After washing my hands and walking away  
I was smitten within me... my knees seemed to sway  
I realize NOW it was I... I was on trial  
Had I turned on the crowd and made a denial  
He'd have blessed me and claimed me and I'd never see  
In that glorious Face that pity for ME!

- Pat Geren

Selected by Sister Ruthanna Sauerwein



Like Enoch, walk with God this New Year. But remember that to walk with God, you must walk in the direction in which God goes.

Selected by Sister Ruthanna Sauerwein

## THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

### THE GREAT SUPPER

Luke 14:12-24

Jesus was dining with a Pharisee. I think this Pharisee was a good man because he invited Jesus to dine with him. He wanted to hear Jesus and considered it an honor to have the Master in his home.

Jesus said to the Pharisee, "When you make a feast, don't call your friends, nor your brethren, neither your relatives or your rich neighbors; lest they invite you to their homes and a recompense be made to you. When you make a feast; call the poor, the maimed, the lame, and the blind: And you shall be blessed; for they cannot recompense you; but you shall be recompensed at the resurrection of the just.

Jesus told about a certain man who made a great supper and invited many. He sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were invited, "Come, for all things are now ready."

Then they all with one consent began to make excuse. One said, "I have bought a piece of ground, and I have to go see it: I pray thee, have me excused." And another said, "I have bought a yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee, have me excused." And another said, "I have married a wife and I cannot come."

When the servant returned and told his Lord these things; the master, being angry, said to his servant, "Go quickly into the streets and lanes of the city and bring in the poor, the maimed, the halt and the blind." The servant did as his lord commanded and returned and said, "Lord, it is done as you said, and yet there is room." The Lord said, "Go out quickly into the highways and hedges and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled: For I say unto you that none of those men, which were first invited, shall taste of my supper."

Isn't that about the way most people react to the invitation of Jesus for salvation? Excuses, excuses, excuses! There's always something more important. Jesus has done so much for us. He has prepared a table full of the necessary food for all our souls. This food is the Word of God. Jesus said, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." He will take your burden of sin and give you the best in life. He loves you and will forgive you. If you make excuses and turn down the invitation to this great supper the Master may say, "You are excused — you shall never taste of my supper."

We are all invited to this great supper but if we turn it down, there are others who will come. There is a great table spread. God's House will be filled.

Brother Rudy Cover

## DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

### Part 18

Continued from June 1, 1981 Issue

However the latter part of this History belongs to the sixth Dispensation of the world and we will confine the major part of this study to that which we consider belongs to this fifth Dispensation. Nevertheless, a point of great importance we call to your attention, in order that your thinking be not confused, concerning the rightly dividing of the time sequence of the Roman Empire. The point is:... We believe beyond a doubt, that the "feet and toes," mentioned in Dan. 2:41-42, represent the fourth beast's power, the power of Old Rome, before she lost her imperial power and was scattered. And the ten horns in the head of this fourth beast, as seen in the vision of Daniel, represent ten kings or nations. A revision or uniting of the power, of the Roman power, in the days of the end time of this sixth dispensation of the world in which you and I now live. Please bear this in mind, as we study the history of this fourth beast. The Roman Empire was reigning at the time, Christ the Messiah, was born into this world and continued throughout His earthly life. Old Rome had great iron teeth, that is, there were teeth in her law, for she was strong, dreadful and terrible. Reading from Dan. 2:41-43, "And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, (that is, after it would be divided) forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay." This shows the strength and power of the Roman government, the Roman beast, throughout her entire reign, it was of the nature of iron. "And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay."

This passage also shows that the Roman Government would break up and destroy the governments of all the former Empires, or kingdoms: Babylon, Persia and Grecia. The ten kings, or kingdoms, of this fourth Empire, or beast, "part of potters clay, and part of iron," shows the kingdom shall be divided. And we learn from history that it was divided into the "East and the West" with two capitals. "But there shall be in it (the Divided Empire) of the strength of iron, (meaning the strength of the old undivided empire) forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay." This we think means the Roman power mixing with other powers, not "their posterity," in the last days. This shows that the world-

wide Roman power. while in its divided state, will be losing its strength somewhat, "a mixed government and history shows that that is true.

Therefore the "ten horns" in Daniel's vision, of chapter 7:7-8; symbolize ten nations, coming together in a revision of the Old Roman power in the last days, as is shown also by Daniel's night visions, the latter times of the kingdom. We have reason to believe that Daniel himself did not understand the full consummation of these visions. Dan. 12:9, "And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end." Nevertheless, Jesus has sent His message to us, the Church, that the sayings of Revelation, which contains some of the very things which Daniel prophesied, are not to be sealed. Rev. 22:10, "And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book (they are to be and can be understood, if we have the Spirit of Christ): for the time is at hand."

Note what has to happen, in the days of these four kings, kingdoms, or Empires, which both Nebuchadnezzar and Daniel saw in the visions which we have been studying. Dan. 2:44, "And in the days of these kings (of the four Empires) shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever."

Now let us analyze this verse carefully. It means much in the explanation of the Dispensations of this world. First God's promise through Daniel was that He would set up a New Kingdom for His people and He did set it up in the next Dispensation. It was "Not to be left to other people." He gave it to Israel, however its nature was not at that time understood by them. We think it was to be a Spiritual kingdom, not a kingdom of flesh such as they possessed in the world. Nevertheless, Israel, as a nation of God's chosen people, did not accept this new kingdom, in the days of these aforementioned kings, or kingdoms. However Christ set up this everlasting kingdom in the days of the last one of these Empires, or kings, in the days of the Roman Government. We will study the nature of this everlasting kingdom, as we study the Sixth Dispensation. The next Dispensation, the sixth, is the "Dispensation of Grace, the Church Dispensation."

Please note again the words, "and the kingdom shall not be left to other people." This means it will not be left to the nations of this world, but be given to God's people, through the coming "seed," Jesus Christ, the Son of God. This kingdom of Christ shall break in pieces and consume all of these kingdoms, meaning descendants

of the four Empires mentioned, or all the kingdoms of this world, and it shall stand for ever. Christ will break in pieces the nations, crush and destroy them, when He returns to earth. Dan. 2:45, "Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone (meaning Christ) was cut out of the mountain without hands, (out of the mountain of God) and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; (the combined Empires, descendants in the last days) the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure." Hence, the kingdom of God was to be set up, for His people, at the close of Gentile dominion, in the days of the fourth "beast" of Daniel, which had ten kings to follow, symbolized by the ten toes of the feet of the image, and not (as men teach) in the days of the ten horns, of the beast of Daniel's vision, Dan. 7.

This fourth beast was diverse from the others before it. Dan. 7:23-24, "Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth (meaning the Roman Empire), which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces." This they did for a number of centuries, until after the Dark Ages. Verse 24, "And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise. And another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings." This is the "little horn," in the head of the fourth beast. We think there is no doubt that he be the "Man of Sin." II Thess. 2:4, The first beast of Revelation 13, the beast out of the sea, with seven heads and ten horns.

As pointed out before, the ten horns, in the head of this beast signifies ten kings, or nations of Europe and the Roman Power, revised. The "little horn," or anti-Christ subdues three of these kings. Hence this fourth beast of Daniel developes into the beast of the Revelation. Since that Beast will arise in the next Dispensation, we leave the discussion of him until that time.

Let us now sum up our study of the Fifth Dispensation. We have given the reader, God's promise of a New Kingdom for His people and the world kingdoms of the Gentiles, as they existed from Babylon to the coming of the "Messiah," who had long been promised of the seed of Abraham.

In B.C. 536, after seventy years captivity, the Jews returned from Babylon. We are told by history that from B.C. 166 to B.C. 40, they stove under the Asmoneans to regain supremacy over Palestine, but in B.C. 40, Herod the Great, an Idumean, was made king by the Romans. In A.D. 70 Jerusalem was sacked and burned by Titus, and the Jews driven out of Palestine. Nevertheless, according to

the Word of God, He will bring them back, as we learn from the voice of the prophets, as well as from Christ and the New Testament.

For centuries God has watched over and protected His first chosen people, Israel, from their enemies, but when they forsook Him and became idolaters, His Glory left the Temple and He gave them over to their enemies. Then He sent the promised seed, Christ, yet they were so filled with unbelief and hatred they would not receive Him. Hence, they nailed Him to the Cross. Thus ended the Fifth Dispensation of this world.

Our next article will mark the beginning of the Gospel of Grace, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Redeemer and Saviour of this lost and dying world.

Brother William Root

## HE HATH APPOINTED A DAY HE WILL JUDGE THE WORLD

The day of grace is passing fast draws the judgment nigh,  
The world deceived is sleeping, nor hears the midnight cry;  
While shadows fast are growing, the bleaker darker night,  
When God no more beseeching, withdraws from thee His light.  
O, man how great the darkness, which now hath closed thy eyes,  
Who welcomes not the kindness, that God stills testifies;  
For in my heart has sounded, so oft His words of grace,  
Yet Jesus has not entered, for Him you have no place.  
And journey on without Him, and fill your life with sin;  
In face of deeper sorrows, which shortly will begin;  
Sad day of awful terrors, for those who spurn God's love.  
Shall fall without a question, from God's own hand above.  
The day God has appointed, how soon it will be here,  
T'will bring unparalleled trouble, which men should greatly fear;  
Who are but mere professors, all such shall surely find,  
When Christ shall take His saved ones, they shall be left behind.  
What cries, from men awakening, and find themselves too late,  
Alas! has come "tomorrow," the day that seals their fate;  
Their cry, "Lord, Lord, open to us." then boldly rends the air;  
The door has closed to heaven, with them in great despair.  
For them each believer, shall taste of God's great wrath,  
And find real hell in those days, along their daily path;  
Till the Lord, their Judge shall come, and smite them with his breath,  
Destruction everlasting, shall strike them cold in death.  
Why not believe your Bible, and from your sleep awake,  
And flee with haste to Jesus, as from a great earthquake;

And thus escape the judgment of all God's righteous ire:  
For if you miss salvation, your doom's the lake of fire.  
God says there is none righteous, not e'en so much as one,  
If simply we believe Him, our hearts to Him are won;  
God says that we are sinners, as such we must not hide,  
But own to Him we're guilty, and wound our human pride.  
If we build upon the sand our house is sure to fall,  
Thieves do steal our treasures here, we pass, and leave them all;  
Better lose our hand, or foot, or eye if it needs be;  
Then lose our soul, O! think ye, for all eternity.  
Today the Saviour's calling wilt thou come unto Me?  
Thy soul from earth is passing, when gone where wilt thou be?  
Acquaint thyself with Jesus, who loves you and is near.  
To save now dear sinner, while you are reading here.  
O! look to Him, O! have Him, O! take Him if you will,  
He is still waiting for you, His hands are stretched out still;  
He longs to show you mercy, in grace He stooped so low,  
And shed His blood most precious, t'will wash you white as snow.  
There's room in heaven for you, come let us go up there,  
Where joys are everlasting, with Jesus Christ so fair,  
So good, so kind, so gentle, His love shall never cease;  
Come let us share His presence, His glory, rest and peace.  
Casting hateful pride away, God's mercy, let us crave,  
Which He so gladly offers, to free each sinful slave;  
With joy of God's forgiveness, our hearts are then outpoured  
With thanks and praise forever, to Jesus Christ our Lord.

Selected by Sister E. M. Alltus



## PROFIT AND LOSS

I counted dollars while God counted Crosses;  
I counted gains while He counted losses;  
I counted my worth by the things gained in store,  
But He sized me up by the scars that I bore.  
I coveted honors and sought for degrees;  
He wept 'as He counted the hours on my knees.  
I never knew till one day by a grave  
How vain are the things that we spend life to save.  
I did not know till a friend went above  
That richest is he who is rich in God's love.

- Author unknown

Selected by Brother Paul Eberly

## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR JULY, 1981

### DECEIT

Memory Verse: Obad. 3

The pride of thine heart hath deceived thee, thou that dwellest in the clefts of the rock, whose habitation is high; that saith in his heart, Who shall bring me down to the ground?

Wed. 1 - Hosea 11:1-12

Thur. 2 - Hosea 12:1-14

Fri. 3 - Amos 8:1-14

Sat. 4 - Obad. 1-21

Memory Verse: Zeph. 3:13

The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity, nor speak lies; neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth: for they shall feed and lie down, and none shall make them afraid.

Sun. 5 - Mic. 6:1-16

Mon. 6 - Zeph. 1:1-18

Tues. 7 - Zeph. 3:1-20

Wed. 8 - Zec. 13:1-9

Thur. 9 - Mal. 1-14

Fri. 10 - Matt. 13:1-23

Sat. 11 - Matt. 24:1-28

Memory Verse: Matt. 24:4-5

And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

Sun. 12 - Matt. 24:29-51

Mon. 13 - Matt. 27:1-23

Tues. 14 - Matt. 27:24-44

Wed. 15 - Matt. 27:45-66

Thur. 16 - Mark 4:1-20

Fri. 17 - Mark 7:1-23

Sat. 18 - Mark 13:1-23

Memory Verse: Mark 4:18-19

And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word, And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.

Sun. 19 - Luke 21:1-24

Mon. 20 - John 7:1-27

Tues. 21 - John 7:28-53

Wed. 22 - Rom. 1:1-16

Thur. 23 - Rom. 1:17-32

Fri. 24 - Rom. 3:1-31

Sat. 25 - Rom. 7:1-25

Memory Verse: Mark 7:21-23

For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.

Sun. 26 - Rom. 16:1-27

Mon. 27 - I Cor. 3:1-23

Tues. 28 - I Cor. 6:1-20

Wed. 29 - I Cor. 15:1-30

Thur. 30 - I Cor. 15:31-58

Fri. 31 - II Cor. 4:1-18

Memory Verses: I Cor. 3:18

Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seemeth to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise.

I Cor. 15:33

Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

JULY 1, 1981

NO. 13

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## TIME

Time is money —

We have no right to waste it.

Time is power —

We have no right to dissipate it.

Time is influence —

We have no right to throw it away.

Time is life —

We must value it greatly.

Time is God's —

He gives it to us for a purpose.

Time is a sacred trust —

We must answer for every moment.

Time is wisdom —

We have no right to be ignorant.

Time is preparation for eternity —

We must redeem it.

Author Unknown

Selected by Brother Paul Eberly

## CONFERENCE REFLECTIONS

General Conference has again come and gone. The long-looked-for event has now joined all past conferences in history. In these perilous times it is a blessing to be permitted to meet as we have. This Conference was God's answer to the prayers of many.

The fellowship of God's family was sweet. Christian love was very evident throughout the meeting, including the business session. It is good for Brethren to dwell together in unity. It was a joyous time for making and rekindling friendships among those who attended. This was evident as most of the members stayed for the whole meeting instead of leaving after the weekend. This steadfastness was inspiring to the ministry and to the delegates. This supportive attendance of the members inspired each other and knit the family of believers closer together. This fellowship made it difficult to leave such a heavenly meeting and again take our places in the natural world.

Certainly the atmosphere of the world is far from that of General Conference. The speech, dress and concerns of this world are at odds with this glorious occasion. Although fain to leave such a place, yet the inspiration of the meeting would have been of little value if it did not direct us to live worthy lives in the world about us. We have been filled for a purpose. Without the challenge of the world about us, our filling would be in vain. As much as we enjoy this fellowship still we have a nobler aim as lights in this world. We have now been well fueled to cast forth a bright beam.

The fellowship was enjoyable, while the preaching of the Gospel was edifying and inspiring. Fellowship without a deeper purpose would have merely been social. But here by the power of the Holy

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### THE BIBLE MONITOR

### JULY 1, 1981

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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Spirit, the Gospel was preached. Each hearer's heart and soul was moved by the appeals to holy living. The warnings of spiritual follies and the urgings to hold to the Bible were all given not only to prepare us to live worthily day by day, but that we also might be prepared for Heaven. We do not know how long time might continue for each of us for we may have to meet death or the Lord may return very soon. The Gospel was given that we might be prepared whatever we are called upon to face. The conditions in the surrounding world may shortly change so that we will have to give more than lip service to our profession. The military and educational systems of our country may well cause us much woe and demand of us choices that could affect our soul's destiny.

The preaching of the Gospel was with the evident power of the Holy Spirit. It was with tears of joy that both young and old were made to see their need of the Saviour. One of the joys of the Conference was the time set aside for the baptism of a young sister. It is hoped that the sown seed will continue to produce a harvest of souls for the Kingdom of God.

This wonderful meeting would have been a failure, if it did not motivate those who were present to go forth in heartfelt service for our Lord and Master. With the preaching of the Gospel, the fellowship of the Saints and the soul stirring experiences of that meeting each one should have been motivated to go forth to the surrounding world to do the work of the Master. This Conference should have given each one a purpose. Where in the past there may have been a tendency to downgrade the ability and possibilities of the Dunkard Brethren Church, now there can be no doubt. The Dunkard Brethren Church has a purpose for its existence. The events of this past Conference have shown that even a handful can do some mighty things through its preaching, missionary, educational and publishing efforts. She has already accomplished great things in the past fifty-five years, but there is more to be done and she will be found equal to the challenge. But the Church is equal to her purpose and possibilities only when each of her members has that purpose within and is willing to live it out.

The purpose of the Church will not be accomplished at General Conference. There she was motivated and edified. Now she must follow up that experience with daily and weekly efforts in each congregation. It would seem so wasteful for those who attended this meeting to go home and do no better than before.

Surely each who attended this meeting formed intentions to do better. Too often intentions lose their power and we slip back into our former habits. However if we realize that time may be very short and the Church has a great purpose and that our individual

efforts are needed to fulfill that purpose, then we must not allow our intentions to betray us. We must go forward and do what each of us can do. Then through the Spirit's power we will see what the Church can accomplish even in these dark and perilous times. What is your purpose?

## OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

The large number of young people who attended Conference was an inspiration to the older Brethren, not only by their attendance but also by their good behavior. You are the future Church and we believe the Church is in safe hands if you continue to stay close by His side.

I was permitted to read the Commencement Address of one of our Sisters who was Valedictorian of her class. I asked permission to have it printed in the Bible Monitor. As you young Brethren and Sisters read this article, I believe you will have to agree that walking with Jesus really counts for a happy life. May each one of you keep close to Jesus and may He help you decide each important decision in your life.

Christian training in the home was emphasized by many Conference speakers. After reading our Sister's speech, I think you will agree that it really pays to have Christian training and Bible study in the home.

Good afternoon! The day has finally arrived that the graduating class of 1981 has looked forward to for several years.

Today represents the close of one chapter of our lives and the beginning of another. We have been in school together for several years and it may be a little hard to part and go our separate ways but we have a great challenge before us as we face our future. As we go out and fulfill our dreams and meet our goals, we each have a responsibility to do the best we can in whatever we do whether it be attending college, getting a job, or maybe even marriage. We can be a success at anything, however small and unimportant it may seem.

As we plan for our future, we have many opportunities to consider. There are many questions that we need to ask ourselves, one of which is, "What is our goal in life?" All of us seek true happiness but what is going to be our means of finding it? Will it be through money? Power? Having a family? Having a nice home? True. Each of these things could bring us a certain amount of happiness but there is one thing that is essential to true happiness. That one thing is for us to have a right relationship with God. Our Creator placed us here to serve Him and we each have a purpose in life. By finding that purpose and serving our Creator, we can have true happiness and will make success of ourselves.

Our lives have been given to us. Now let's not waste them but live them to the fullest. "God asks no man if he will accept life. That is not the choice. One must take it. The only choice is how."

As we think back over the last twelve years of our education, we might ask ourselves what we have gained. Hopefully we have learned many lessons and gained much knowledge that has prepared us for our future. Even though we are through with our high school education and may not be attending college, we still have much to learn. As we go out and meet this world face to face, we will have many experiences, some of which will be good, others bad. These experiences can teach us many things but only if we are willing to learn. It was once said that "Every worthwhile accomplishment, big or little, has its stages of drudgery and triumph: a beginning, a struggle, and a victory."

When considering education, we need to keep it in its proper perspective. We should recognize that a good education can be of great value but only if we have a purpose in life. Perhaps we could liken this to the cultivation of a field. To cultivate a field without planting seed would be a waste of time. We have spent twelve years of our lives under cultivation by our instructors here at North Central. This cultivation or education can be of great value to us in our future lives, but only if we have had the seeds of love, honesty, integrity, and ambition planted in our hearts.

On the other hand, to plant these principles in our lives without cultivating them would limit the benefits that we could receive from them. What I'm trying to say is this: Education is important but not all-important. It is a valuable tool to be used in building a successful life. It has been said, "It is only the ignorant who despise education."

As we look at Americans in general today, we see a people who seem to care only for themselves. Our motto seems to be "Look out for one's self even though it may mean stepping on another." But as the class of "81", let's begin changing that motto. Let's show more love and consideration for one another as American citizens. Our country is in quite a turmoil and we do not know what the future holds for us as a nation. We have many internal problems of our own and its going to take much cooperation and working together as Americans to pull through on top.

So as we start this new chapter of our lives, let's put our past and future education to the best use. Let's always keep our goals in sight and not let ourselves become so materialistically minded that we let the good things of life rob us of the best things.

In closing, I would like to leave you with this thought: "If our learning succeeds only in making us wealthy and famous, our

studying has not been of the fullest benefit, but if it enables us to be of higher service of God and man, it is worth all the years of effort it has cost us. One of life's greatest satisfactions is the feeling that we have helped another person in some way."

Sister Ruth Drake

## WASTED MISTAKES

Everyone knows it's quite easy to make a mistake. In fact, it takes very little effort to make a mess of things and even when we try really hard, things don't always come out right. A mistake is not something we plan, but is the result we get when plans don't work out, or when we have used poor judgment in planning and so forth. You may think a mistake is just a mistake and there is no difference, but some bring about a good result later on, while others do not. What then is a wasted mistake?

So you think right now that all mistakes are wasted and if none of us ever made a mistake, we'd all be better off? The truth is, we do make mistakes, and to be better off, we must use that experience. Mistakes can teach us valuable lessons, if we will learn from them. This is not to say that we should be careless and make as many mistakes as possible, thinking we will become wiser that way. True wisdom means we acknowledge the mistakes we make, examine them to see what we did wrong, then go on from there to a better way. It is needful also that we learn from the mistakes of others for no one has time to make them all.

Some people never learn anything, even though they make mistake after mistake and suffer accordingly. Others never seem to know when they are well off and are always getting into trouble. After about so much heartache, it seems they should have learned something, but they seem unable to walk in a different pathway. The rut they are in just seems to get deeper. Such people never learn from their mistakes, so each one is a wasted experience.

Each mistake carries a consequence, sometimes a painful one. Not all mistakes are sin, but all actions cause a reaction or result, whether good or bad. Those things which are definitely sinful should not be considered by us as something to experiment with to see how we come out. Most of life's serious mistakes and the resulting heartache are associated with sin. How then do we avoid making mistakes, especially those with such a high price to pay?

"Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God." Matt. 22:29. One mistake which we all seem to make is not spending enough time in God's Word and recognizing His supreme power. His Word tells us what He expects of us and what we can expect from Him. God has set certain rules in motion and to ignore them means trouble ahead.

God does not change a rule to suit some whim we may have, so it is important to look into His Word and know what He says.

Job said, "Teach me, and I will hold my tongue: and cause me to understand wherein I have erred." Job 6:24. In another chapter (19:4), he said, "And be it indeed that I have erred, mine error remaineth with myself." Job knew he must keep still and listen if he were to learn where his mistake was. He also knew that whatever mistake he had made, it was his responsibility and no one else could be blamed. If we are to profit from our mistakes, we also must learn these two principles.

"He is in the way of life that keepeth instruction: but he that refuseth reproof erreth." Prov. 10:17. It is a serious mistake not to accept instruction, which often can prevent mistakes in the first place. If a mistake has already been made, we are only making another one if we refuse correction. One mistake piled on another, and then another, soon will be an overwhelming pile of failures and makes a life full of heartache. God has something better for you than that if you will yield to His will for your life.

"For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." I Tim. 6:10. Wrong desires lead to mistakes. Placing your affection on what this world has to offer will only bring sorrow in the end. Jesus said, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33. We need to learn to put first things first, to recognize what is most important. God will provide the things we need. Our part is to seek His first and place all our faith in Him, knowing He will provide.

"Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge." Prov. 19:27. Don't listen to ungodly advice! If you have made a mistake and need help, be careful whose advice you seek. To avoid problems, don't seek instruction from a person who ignores God. "And an highway shall be there, - called The Way of holiness; -- the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein." Isa. 35:8. God has an established way of holiness, and only His Word can give you the rules for the road you are travelling on.

"It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways." Psa. 95:10b. Sinful mistakes are a problem which begins in the heart. A stubborn, rebellious heart does not know the ways of God. Until your heart is right with God, you cannot avoid mistakes for you've already made the most serious one. Put God first, learn from your mistakes and leave them behind. Don't let your life be one big wasted mistake.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## WHAT IS A SOUL WORTH?

Have you ever thought about how much a soul is worth? So often we go down life's pathway not really thinking about our soul or somebody else's. It's the soul that goes on into eternity, not the carnal body. The Scriptures tell us not to fear those that just destroy the body, but to fear Him that can send the soul to hell. (Matt. 10:28)

What is our reaction when we lose a loved one or close friend? We often just mourn our own loneliness and sadness, not thinking about where their soul might go for eternity. It's blessed to know that our loved one went on into a peaceful and beautiful paradise and there awaits us.

On the other hand there are those who weren't walking down the Lord's Highway!! We have a responsibility for them also. What could we have done to reach them? We don't want anyone to perish eternally in the torment and pain of Hell. Yet, we are often so busy with farm work, businesses, hobbies and "self", that we don't take the time and effort to reach out and help someone to know Jesus in a special way. What are you willing to sacrifice to see that loved one walking with the Lord?

The Bible instructs us to bring our children up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. There's more to that than just making sure they're in church. Our minds and lives must be centered on Spiritual things. We must show our loved ones how real and special Jesus is to us. We must always be willing and ready to do the Lord's work. You never know what life might be touched by your actions and words.

Those that have lost loved ones into eternity realize for that person there are no more chances. What could we have done? Could we have put down our carnality to help someone to know Christ? What is a Soul worth to YOU?

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## DISPENSATIONAL TRUTH, THE BIBLE MADE PLAIN

### Part 19

We come to the Sixth Dispensation of the world, which is, the Dispensation of the Grace of our God, known as the Church Age. The Bible indicates very clearly, that the establishment of the Kingdom of God, the kingdom of Heaven on earth, originated in the mind of God before the foundation of the world.

First, the Prophets of God prophesied of a coming fore runner, of a Redeemer and Saviour, who was to be the establisher and

builder of the Kingdom of God. Christ named His Church which is His Body and Bride, here and now in this world, and who will be with Him throughout the Eternal world to come.

It was John the Baptist, who came preaching this Kingdom of Heaven as being at hand. Then Jesus, the Messiah, came preaching the same doctrine, Matt. 3:1-3; Mark 1:14-15. We affirm that this Kingdom of Heaven was and is a Spiritual kingdom, brought from heaven to earth, to be set up by Christ, the Saviour of the world, and has no part with a kingdom of this world, in any of its three stages. Also, that it was to come in without observation, it was perpetual and it was and is the kingdom promised to Israel. Dan. 2:44. It is, while in its first stage, the temple of the Lord, which Christ, the Branch, was to build. It is a kingdom for Christ to rule over, seated upon His Spiritual Throne. This Temple is symbolical of the Church, which Christ was to build. It is everlasting and has no end.

Let us note, "the kingdom of Heaven," "the kingdom of God" and "the Church" are all used interchangeably in the Holy Scriptures as well as the titles; "household", "vineyard" and "sheepfold" used for the habitation of God. All these statements we shall proceed to prove by the Holy Scriptures. Referring back to God's Covenants with Abraham and his seed, through Isaac and Jacob, we note the following, Numbers 24:17, "I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob (Israel) and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy the children of Seth." Gen. 49:10, "The Sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a law giver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be." Christ the "Messiah" is called "The Lion of the Tribe of Judah," Rev. 5:5. He was the lawgiver, who was to come, to give law, for the Dispensation of Grace of Abraham's seed, the Redeemer and Saviour, the one to re-establish and to sit upon the "Throne of David," when he returns.

Remember, God promised David a successor to his Throne. However, we doubt if David understood at that time the nature of the Throne, promised to him. Do we? Psalms 132:11-12, "The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it; of the fruit of thy body (a descendant, one of his seed) will I set upon thy throne." The next verse reads, "If thy children will keep my covenant and my testimony that I shall teach them, their children, shall also sit upon thy throne for evermore."

Note the word "evermore." Do we think God meant that David's children, his descendants would sit successively, one after another, upon his fleshly Throne, here in this mortal world forevermore? We think not. Christ's kingdom and throne is not of this

world, nor of flesh, as we understand, but a reign with those of immortality, in the resurrection world, John 18:36; Luke 20:34-36; Rev. 20:4-6. We know that the One who was to sit on David's Throne was to be Jesus Christ the Son of God. How do we know? By the Holy Scriptures. Acts 2:30, "Therefore being a prophet (meaning David), and knowing that God had sworn an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne."

Do we think that either David, or Christ, will be resurrected, come back to mortal flesh, to sit on David's throne? And if it be Christ, will He sit on the Throne of David at Jerusalem in His Glorious Body, to rule and to reign over all nations of flesh from Jerusalem? We can not take this view. We do know, by the Word, that Christ will reign here on this, as we believe, renovated earth, with His Saints, the remnant of Israel included; nevertheless the entire New Testament indicates very clearly that Christ's Second coming is at the end of the world.

Luke 1:32, "He shall be great (meaning Christ) and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever: and of his kingdom there shall be no end." This plainly shows that Christ's kingdom is perpetual, shall never end. For he will deliver up His kingdom to the Father, (I Cor. 15:24) when He delivers up His earthly throne. We believe that Christ will take over the throne of David and sit upon that throne, when He comes in his glory, with all the holy angels. Matt. 25:31-32; Rev. 20:4.

The Bible strongly indicates that the establishment of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth originated in the mind of God. A Redeemer and Saviour, God's only begotten Son, was to come to earth, to save mankind from their sins. This was His foreordained plan. Salvation for the entire world of those who would accept God's plan, was prepared before the foundation of the world. Eph. 1:4-5 assures those in the Church of that fact. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love." This is a promise to the Church, those who accept God's plan of eternal life through the Son.

Isaiah prophesied of the coming Kingdom of Heaven. Isa. 35:8-10, "And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein. No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall

go up thereon, it shall not be found there; but the redeemed (Christ's saints) shall walk there: And the ransomed of the Lord (those for whom Christ died) shall return and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads: they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." Another prophecy concerning the new kingdom, which Christ would set up is found in Isa. 9:6-7, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it, with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this." So we find that the government of the kingdom (Church) will be under the authority of this Son of God, which government will increase in Peace forever.

Note these verses carefully, they harmonize exactly with our references above. They prove a son born to Israel, His Majesty, His power, His authority, that He is God, the Father of the Everlasting Age, the Prince of Peace. Also Christ's message to the Church, by John, shows Him to be King of Kings and Lord of Lords, when He comes to reign over this kingdom, which He set up while He was here in the world before He ascended up into heaven. They also definitely prove that this Son born to Israel, is Jesus Christ, because of their harmony with the truths of those texts cited above and that this Son is to occupy the throne of David. Please note the words, "of the increase of His government and peace shall never end." These words prove that the kingdom of Heaven (of God) is perpetual, that the same kingdom of heaven which Christ set up (the Church), is the same Spiritual kingdom over which He will reign, when He comes to the Throne of His Glory, and that it was not and is not postponed.

While we do not know what was in the mind of God concerning the origin of His kingdom, yet we do know through His inspired Word that He would set up an everlasting kingdom and He gave to His Son all power and authority. Eph. 1:19-23, "And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to usward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of

him that filleth all in all." We know also, who was to be Ruler in this everlasting kingdom, which Daniel said the God of heaven would set up. Dan. 2:44. We know also something about the time, or age, in which it would be set up.

We have shown also that the prophet Zechariah foretold of this kingdom of Heaven, using the term "Temple of the Lord," (symbolical of the church) it was to be built by the "branch," Christ, who was to bear the glory of it. Zech. 6:12-13, "And speak unto him, saying, Behold the man whose name is the Branch; and he shall grow up out of his place (His place was in Heaven), and he shall build the temple of the Lord (the Church) Even he shall build the temple of the Lord: and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne (showing it to be the kingdom); and he shall be a priest, upon his throne: and the council of peace shall be between them both." He is priest now and our Heavenly high priest before He came to earth. Heb. 7:17; 21; 28; "For he testifieth, Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchisedec." "For those priests (meaning priests under the law) were made without an oath; but this with an oath by him that said unto him, The Lord sware and will not repent, Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchisedec. For the law maketh men high priests which have infirmity; but the word of the oath, which was since the law, maketh the Son, who is consecrated for ever more." We see that Christ was high priest of our Christian profession, before He went to Heaven. He was anointed high priest at his baptism. Luke 4:18 says, "The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me..." He had been anointed previous to this. Matt. 3:16-17, "The spirit came down upon him." Peter tells us that, he was anointed with the Holy Ghost and with power... Acts 10:38; We find that a High Priest is anointed to take charge of an existing priesthood. Example, Back in olden times God promised a kingdom, built it among His people Israel and Aaron was anointed to take charge of it, so our Saviour was anointed to take charge of an existing priesthood.

Christ is the head of the Church. Now He has gone to Heaven and is seated there at God's right hand in His Throne. By and by He will return again to occupy His Throne on the renovated earth, in the kingdom of Heaven which He set up while here in the world. Heb. 8:1-4, "Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; For if he were on earth, he should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law." So, we say, that Christ is the high priest over the house of God, the Church, which is the Kingdom of God.

Brother William Root

**THE BIBLE MONITOR**

by Sarah E. Yontz

Even tho' I'm very small,  
A large message I contain;  
The Gospel truth I bring to all,  
From sin we must abstain.

A true, by some I am abused,  
Yet why should I be sad;  
By many I'll be received,  
And make the reader glad.

When purse strings open wide,  
Much larger I will grow  
That I may take the Word to guide  
God's people here below.

Then, too, I'll oftener come,  
And patiently will wait;  
Till you will scan my pages o'er  
E'en though the hour is late.

I hope from writer's pen,  
Each thought and word that's given;  
Will come through earnest prayer,  
And win lost souls for Heaven.

I want to bear good news,  
Of churches far and near;  
Who bravely try His will to do,  
While they are lingering here.

Of course some news is sad,  
When some are called away;  
But let us just be glad,  
We, too, may go some day.

May I loud warning make,  
With no uncertain sound;  
And thus the Gospel take  
Wherever man is found.

Selected from January 15, 1929  
Bible Monitor

## NEWS ITEMS

### BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

The Bethel Congregation enjoyed revival meetings March 22 to April 5 with Bro. Allen Eberly as our evangelist. Bro. Eberly brought to us many Spirit filled messages. We were happy for the three precious souls who gave their hearts to the Lord.

May the Lord richly bless Bro. Eberly as he labors in the Master's service.

Since our revival meetings, another brother has been added to the Church by baptism.

Our Spring lovefeast was held April 26. Visiting ministers throughout the day were: Virgil Leatherman, Laverne Keeney, Allen Eberly, and Jack Snyder with Bro. Keeney officiating in the evening.

Sister Fern Kegerreis, Cor.

### BROADWATER CHAPEL, MARYLAND

The Lord willing, the Broadwater Congregation plans to hold revival meetings Sunday, July 26 through Sunday, August 2. The Lovefeast will be on Saturday, August 1. Brother Virgil Leatherman of Littlestown, Pennsylvania will be the evangelist. Please come and worship with us.

Sister Diane Beeman, Cor.

### PLEVNA, INDIANA

The Plevna Congregation will hold a Revival July 26 - August 9, the Lord willing.

Brother Fred Pifer from the Dallas Center, Iowa Congregation will be our Evangelist. We will have a Lovefeast the evening of August 8 with services beginning at 10 A.M. that day.

We invite all who can to come worship with us.

Sister Verda Lorenz, Cor.

### PRAYER REQUEST

Sister Margaret Marks suffered a hard stroke. She was in the Baptist Hospital, Plant City for a week then was moved to the Forest Park Nursing Home, Plant City. She is improving slowly. We feel the need of your prayers in our behalf.

Brother J. F. Marks

## OBITUARY

### JESSIE FREED

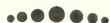
Bro. Jessie Howard Freed was born October 20, 1903 at Criders, Virginia. He died June 3, 1981 at Banning, California. He lived in the Beaumont area the past twenty-six years.

He had been a member of the Winterhaven Dunkard Brethren Church for the past three years. He will be missed, for he was a friendly and generous Brother.

He is survived by his wife of fifty-six years, Emma; one son, Charles of Tacoma, Washington; nine daughters, Sara Cookman of Palm Desert, California; Ada Mann and Rebecca Frye of Ocala, Florida; Sally Lutz of Gaithersburg, Maryland; Betty Allen of Banning, California; Edna Franchino of Granada Hills, California; Jessie Holloway of Fort Smith, Oklahoma; Dottie Campbell of Tacoma, Washington and Goldie Dove of Beaumont, California. Bro. Freed is also survived by thirty-two grandchildren and twenty-four great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held June 8, 1981 at the Winterhaven Dunkard Brethren Church by Elder Ora Skiles assisted by Bro. Rudy Cover.

Interment was in the Mountain View Cemetery, Beaumont, California.



## PAPER FROM RAGS

Paper, that article so useful in human life, takes its origin from cast-off rags. The rag dealer buys the cast-off rags. These he takes to the mill, and there they are sorted, washed, mashed and shaped, in short, formed into a fabric beautiful enough to bear upon its surface the messages of love, the certificate of marriage or the signature of kings. This reminds us of the resurrection of the body. When deserted by the soul how much better is it than a worn and wasted rag? It is buried in the earth, and there reduced to dust and ashes. If man's art and device can produce so pure and white a fabric as paper from filthy rags, what should hinder God by His might power, from raising this body from the grave, and fashioning it like unto the body of Christ.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

JULY 15, 1981

NO. 14

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## WHAT WE MAY GIVE FOR JESUS

We may give our hands to Jesus,  
We may work for him alway;  
We may give our tongues to Jesus,  
We may often sing and pray.  
We may give our hearts to Jesus,  
We may love him all the way;  
We may give our lips to Jesus  
We may praise him all the day.

We may give our mind to Jesus,  
We may think what we can do;  
We may show how much we love him,  
We may be his soldiers true.  
We may give our time to Jesus,  
Give our talents, words and deeds,  
For we know that he will keep us,  
Know he will supply our needs.

--Mrs. M. Harris

## LITTLE FOXES

"Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines: for our vines have tender grapes." Song of Solomon 2:15.

We worry about the adult foxes which get into the chicken coop and carry away the best of the flock. But the young foxes which look so cute and cuddly escape our notice. They do not seem to be capable of destruction. Yet they are very destructive. While they do not wreck havoc in the hen house, they can do much damage in the vineyard or orchard. The tender vines are very attractive to these little creatures. They can very playfully ruin these soft, tender vines. No matter how cute they may appear, their destructiveness is just as real as that done by their parents.

These little foxes present an analogy to the work of Satan. He works in subtle ways to destroy the life, influence and witness of the Christian. Sin can appear so innocent and harmless. Sin of a grosser sort may appear like the fox in the hen house. Its effects will be very evident. The life that has been dissipated in drunkenness, lawlessness and lust will be easily seen in later years. But the enticement to that kind of life was probably very innocent. What appears innocent at the beginning soon grows into habit and that habit becomes the character of that person. As Christians we are aware of the foxes, the sins that appear so sinful, but we are not so apt to beware of the little foxes.

Satan would seldom entice one to follow him, if he presented the whole picture of the awfulness of sin and its final destiny. But Satan entices many through his deceiving appearance and allurements. He does not show the gore of the hen house but rather the tender, unprotected plant in the vineyard.

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## THE BIBLE MONITOR

## JULY 15, 1981

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as 'Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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There are many tender spiritual grapes that need to be protected by the Christian. The Christian must receive this warning, else his grapes and his vines will be destroyed. They are very susceptible to the little foxes' gnawing. Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance -- the fruit of the Spirit -- are very tender. They are not man's natural crop, so they are delicate and easily damaged. Little foxes, envy, jealousy, hatred, suspicion, partiality, can so easily damage this fruit. The love between Brethren or between husband and wife can be injured or destroyed by minor things. Joy and peace can be destroyed by small things. The little foxes are ever busy in the vineyard of our lives. They seemingly never rest.

They are most effective against those tender in the faith. The young and the immature are the natural working area of these little foxes. The mature Christian like the established vine can withstand a great deal of abuse yet the writer worries about the vine itself. The gnawing of the little foxes may prove to be so persistent and so deeply damaging that not only the fruit but the whole vine will be lost. The vine must be firmly attached to its source of life or these ravages will destroy it. If the Christian's fruit is destroyed, there will be nothing to identify him as a living vine. Vines that do not produce are pulled up. So the little foxes can bring serious consequences.

These dangerous foxes must be taken. By whatever means the foxes must be kept out of the vineyard as well as the hen house. The little foxes also must be kept out of the Church. So often they are so small and cute that they are allowed to go their way. They grow until they wreck havoc with not only the grapes but the vine and later the whole vineyard. This is why they must be taken as soon as they are identified. Cunning Satan works in our minds so we delay or neglect the taking of the little foxes. So often a matter seems so small that we are hesitant to bring it up. We do not want to be thought to be picky or disruptive. We do not want to disturb the peace. Yet if a matter has come to that point, the peace, of at least one member, has been disturbed already. Many disruptions within the Church could have been avoided if these little foxes had been identified and dealt with. They could more easily be held at bay if the Law of Pardon were used more frequently. If the foxes were stopped at that point, they could not get a toehold in the Church.

If we all take these foxes, our grapes and our vines will prosper. May each Christian keep the little foxes out of their lives and the Church. Have you been on guard against the little foxes?



The Sabbath is the shadow of Christ on the hot highway of time. We pause in it as in a shelter from the heat, and are refreshed.

Watch your battery. Your soul is your battery. When you neglect it, it gives no sign. But some day when you sadly need it, it is likely to fail you. Better have it looked after regularly at the service station -- the church.



## CONFERENCE REFLECTIONS

The Conference of 1981 is history, but I am sure that everyone present went home with a feeling of having been drawn closer to God and felt His presence throughout each day's services.

The Maranatha Camp with its beautiful setting of trees and lake only added to the feeling of God's nearness. The management took care of our physical needs in a wonderful way. The meals were good and were served in a well organized way.

The song services were but a foretaste of the time when we will be permitted to sing Christ's praises around His throne. Psalms 95:1, "O come let us sing unto the Lord." Psalms 100:1, "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord." Psalms 147:1, "Praise ye the Lord; for it is good to sing praises unto our God."

The leading of the Holy Spirit was clearly shown in the subject thought of each speaker, while no speaker knew what the others would bring. The theme of the Conference in each sermon was that our lives should reflect Christ and that everyone coming in contact with us would know we had been with Christ. Many made the remark: "This is the best Conference we have had." Perhaps because it was a foretaste of Christ's coming.

One speaker remarked that Christ was our head and if we cut off the head, we had a dead body. Another used the thought, "Our bodies are the temples of God." In the Old Testament only Priests were allowed in the Temple. Who are we allowing to dwell in our temple?

We have a heritage we can be proud of. The Church was established by Christ's Disciples. We can also learn much from the children of Israel. As long as they walked with God and obeyed His commands, He was with them and cared for them. But when they turned to idols God withdrew His support and often added punishment. We can have idols today. Let's be careful.

Our Editor will again be able to bring you the main thoughts from each service, so that you who were not privileged to attend Conference may enjoy some of the blessings that we who attended received.

Sister Ruth Drake

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Through the kindness of Sis. Drake, tapes of the Sermons of General Conference have been made available to the Editor. It is our desire to use this material in the next several issues. It is our hope that these excerpts will prove a blessing to each reader, whether permitted to attend General Conference or not.

### 1981 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

#### SATURDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Moderator: Elder Dale Jamison.

Chorister: Bro. Larry Andrews.

Speaker: Bro. Paul Stump. Acts II.

When Barnabus was sent down to Antioch where revival was in progress, he exhorted them to cleave unto the Lord. This means steadfastness. Have we grown or slipped back in the past year? We should be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. We should praise Him. We should be excited about the Lord. We should be on fire for Him. We should be glad for our opportunities for service and worship. We should steadfastly stand in the liberty Christ has given us on the Cross. Do we appreciate our blessings? Do we grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord? We must stand fast in one Spirit and one mind. Have we held onto the traditions of the Church as given in the Word, not the traditions of men. We need to be careful to stand fast in the faith of the Saints. Did we come to be built up or just to see or be seen? If we do not grow we become runts.

#### SATURDAY P. M.

Moderator: Bro. Paul Byfield.

Chorister: Bro. Martin Meyers.

Opening: Bro. Fred Pifer. Colossians 3:1-15.

The word "if" is small but it means alot. How we answer that question will determine how we live day by day. A man tried to blow a horn that was stuffed full of various things that kept that horn from being played. We must be careful not to hinder our Christian lives with various things. We are told not only what we should have in our lives but also the characteristics that we should have.

First Speaker: Bro. Alvin Chupp. Peace. Matt. 5:9.

Do you want to be called a child of God? It takes more than a profession, it takes some work. Matt. 5:44-48. We have a work as the children of God. There is a wonderful peace available but a condition. Can you help someone else? What is peace. Peace is

calm, serenity, freedom from war, fear or anxiety, getting along together. These qualities are not naturally within us. Peacemakers promote peace. How often do we neglect this peace and being a peacemaker? We have a peace within but it can only be known by our outward lives. How can we have peace in the midst of troubles? Only by the grace of God. Ps. 4:8. Many cannot sleep because of the lack of peace. Peter, who was under the death sentence, slept so soundly in prison that the angel had to rouse him up.

How do we get this peace? Luke 1:78-79. Luke 2:13-14. Jesus brought peace and goodwill to men. Rom. 8:6. Rom. 14:17. Gal. 5:21-23. There is no law against being peaceful. The world has tribulation, the Christian has peace. No one can take that peace away.

Do you really have this peace, even though you have been baptized, have become a church member? You must have it. To profess Christianity you must have it. To promote it, you must have it. We receive that peace that we might be part of it and share it. Isa. 53:5. Our peace cost our Lord a price. He did not first ask us if we wanted it before He went to the cross. He went to the cross so you could have it when you asked for it. The price of this peace was high, so pursue it. Ps. 34:14. The devil doesn't want you to have peace. Acts 10:36, Rom. 5:1, Eph. 2:14. God has broken down every obstacle that would keep us from having this peace. Isa. 27:5, Col. 3:15. Peace of God should rule in our hearts. We should be thankful for the little blessings, if not, the larger ones may be withholden from us.

Peace is a gift. Ps. 29:11. You can be at peace with God and fellow man and still lack this peace. Must receive as a gift. Ps. 119:65. Nothing shall offend when possessing that peace. Isa. 26:3. The mind must be staid on the Lord. Isa. 48:18. How many tears did the Lord weep over Jerusalem? How many promises had they been given? Yet they would not do the few things He asked of them. John 14:27, John 15:33. What are you afraid of? If you do not fear you have peace. Phil. 4:7. This peace baffles the world yet they see it and would desire it. So we must be peacemakers.

James 2:19. We must believe but we need works to put it into action. We must have peace and show peace or we won't have it at all. James 3:10-18. What stops peace? James 4:1-3. How concerned are you about what you pray for? If you don't work at prayer you are praying amiss. James 4:17. This is why it is necessary to be careful in doing what we know to do. James 5:8. Are you ready right now? James 5:16. Need to pray fervently.

Where should peace be found? In the Home. Where there is confusion rather than peace there is no spiritual life. There must be love between husband and wife. Eph. 5:28. Love yourself indirectly by loving your wife. The husband and wife can help each other in

down times. Col. 3:19. This is common sense. Keep loving each other. How can children be peaceloving if parents aren't? Eph. 5:25, I Pet. 3:7. The wife in subjection to husband but being heirs together the husband should honor her as weaker vessel. Children enjoy a peaceful home. Deut. 6:7. Children are to be taught diligently of spiritual things. Eph. 6:4, I Tim. 3:4, Tit. 2:4. A Peaceful Church cannot be built when chaos is in the home.

I Pet. 3:8, James 4:11. Should especially have peace in Church. Cannot be disruptive. We should be at peace with the ministry even when we think he is wrong. The word is to be the judge. Conference needs peace. II Tim. 2:1-4, I Pet. 2:20-23. May each one have this peace in their lives.

## THE JOY OF THE LORD

In the final portion of Nehemiah 8:10 we read the words, "...for the joy of the Lord is our strength." This thought is carried over to the New Testament and made richer with the full revelation of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 13:20 read, "But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon WITH JOY receiveth it." This is an example of an immature type of joy for in the next verse Christ says, "Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended." Without being judgemental, we feel that this is true in many Christian circles today. There is much loud music and outward expressions of joy but little evidence of discipleship. During time of severe tribulation or persecution we doubt if many (if, indeed, any at all) of those involved in this shallow type of "worship" will endure until the end.

Matthew 25:21 and 23 reads, "His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into THE JOY of thy lord." Likewise, OUR LORD, Jesus Christ, will give us perfect peace and joy when we are faithful in serving Him.

In John 3:29 we read, "He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this MY JOY therefore is fulfilled." John the Baptist spoke these words. Jesus Christ had not, at this time, yet shed his blood to redeem the Church. Therefore, John could only refer to himself as "the friend of the bridegroom." How much more should our joy be fulfilled when we realize that we, as part of the Church, are not only the friend of the bridegroom but THE BRIDE, herself. HALLELUJAH!

John 15:11 says, "These things have I spoken unto you, that MY JOY might remain in you, and that YOUR JOY might be full." The previous verses tell us that Christ is the vine and we are the

branches. It then commands us to keep His commandments. Our joy in Christ is unseparately connected without life of obedience.

In John 16:24 we read, "... ask, and ye shall receive, that YOUR JOY may be full." Previous to this verse Christ is talking about giving the gift of the Holy Spirit. First of all we believe that Christ is telling us to ask for the gift of the Holy Spirit, which is our salvation experience. Secondly, we feel that in times of trouble and sorrow we can ask God, through the Holy Spirit, to give us inward strength and joy.

The truth that we can have joy in the time of trial because of our faith in Christ is also expressed in I Peter 1:7-8, "That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found into praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with JOY unspeakable and full of glory:" As expressed by the song writer, "It is joy unspeakable and full of glory, and the half has never yet been told."

In II John verse 12 we read, "Havings many things to write unto you, I would not write with paper and ink, but I trust to come unto you, and speak face to face, that OUR JOY may be full." We can experience personal joy with our Lord but there is a special kind of joy to be found in the gathering together of the Saints.

Finally in Acts 20:24 we find the words, "... so that I might finish my course WITH JOY,..." The joy we have in times of sorrow and woe, the joy of salvation and blessings of the Holy Spirit, the joy of following Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, the joy of worshipping together, will all seem as nothing when we join together on the shores of Heaven to live in the joy of the Lord forever and forever.

Let us strive to live the kind of life that will bring this ultimate joy at the end of life's journey and will fill our lives with joy as we struggle along with heartaches and sorrow in this life.

Brother James M. Hite

816 E. Birch St., Palmyra, Pa. 17078

## MESSENGER OF LOVE

God loves, Jesus loves, and we are to love also. Jesus was, and is now, God's messenger of love to us. A messenger is simply a message-bearer or one who brings news, and the words from John 3:16 sum up this message of love. If God had not "so loved", He would not have sent Jesus. If Jesus had not given Himself for us, there would be no mercy for us. The news that mercy is available to sinful man is truly a message of love, a message which needs to be told everywhere.

In the Great Commission in Matt. 28:19-20, Jesus said, "Go, ... and teach." Christ never intended that we should keep His message

of mercy, love and hope to ourselves. Jesus conveyed God's love to us in a way which we can understand. It is now our responsibility to be a messenger of Christ's love to those about us. We need to do what we can to help our friends, neighbors and others understand their need of Christ. We need to show them what He can do for them, first by the gift of salvation, and secondly, by making the Christian life truly worthwhile.

God loves other people through those of us who have trusted in Christ for our salvation. If we refuse to love, we hurt others and cheat them out of the love God has to give through us. Many people never receive any love, another reason why Christian love is so important to them. The love we give to such people can become a steppingstone to acceptance of God's love. If we don't love people, it isn't likely that they will believe God loves them either.

We are to be messengers of genuine, Heaven-sent love, not a cheap imitation. In this world, there are imitations of almost everything we can think of, but there is no acceptable substitute for love. God loves even the unlovable and He expects us to do the same. He will fill us to overflowing with love and compassion for others if we will pass it on. If we withhold love from others, God will deal with us accordingly.

Loving and giving go together, for genuine love is unselfish and full of compassion. Love causes you to be deeply concerned for another's welfare, even at your own expense. Giving may involve material things, but often, people need love more than things. You need to give your time, energy and support whenever needed, not just when it's convenient. People do not become physically ill on a convenient schedule and spiritual needs do not arise just when it is most convenient either.

Every Christian needs to set some priorities in life. Of prime importance is the time we invest in Christian service. We are commanded to go, teach, love, give, be concerned and so forth. It is NOT an option to put God's will first. Whatever we give and do for others can never repay God for what He has given us. "We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do." Luke 17:10b. It is only our reasonable service (see Rom. 12:1) to do the best we can do for the Lord. This includes telling people of Christ's love.

Our Christian service is spoken of as a labor of love (I Thess. 1:3), so be sure to keep it that way. Grumbling and trying to avoid the demands on you certainly will not manifest any love to the one who needs your help. Being a messenger of God's love requires more of you than "I'd like to help you, but . . .", or "I would help you, but I'm too busy now. Maybe tomorrow." With such an attitude, you'll be little or no help and will probably make bad matters worse.

Part of being a messenger of love is persistent, loving, prayerful

concern. Your prayer attitude is just as important as your attitude in personal contact. If you are critical, if you judge, if you pray with a Pharisee's approach, you might as well not pray. "And when ye stand praying, forgive, if you have ought against any: that your Father also which is in Heaven may forgive you your trespasses." Mark 11:25. If you hold anything in your heart against someone, your prayers will be meaningless. On the contrary, if you beam love along with your prayer, such a prayer will touch even the hardest heart.

Love does not look at the present condition, but at the potential in Christ. Love helps to bring out the best in people, but unkindness, criticism and so forth tend to bring out their worst. If all Jesus looked at were our bad points, He wouldn't bother with any of us, but He knows what His love will do. Jesus in our hearts will bring out our best and we need to share this news with others.

Some statistics show 97% of the professing Christians never share their faith with anyone. This is the opposite of Christ's command to tell what He has done for us. He intended for us to share the good news of salvation, which He provided because He loves us, not because we deserve it. (What we deserve is judgment.) Being silent when we have the message of a new life in Christ to share surely displeases our Lord. But when we tell others about Christ, we are messengers of love. Have you told anyone about Him?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## **THE CHILDREN'S PAGE**

### **THE SON WHO LEFT HOME**

LUKE 15:1-24

Did you ever feel like running away from home? Don't do it. I did once and it doesn't pay. Home is the best place you can be. It is the place where there are those who love you most. Some do not have good homes and some have no home at all but most of us have good homes -- especially we who have Christian parents.

There was a man who had two sons. He was a good father and had plenty to eat, a good house to live in and servants to work for him. The younger son became dissatisfied. He wanted to go away from home and see something different. He was tired of working with his brother. He wanted to see the world. He asked his father to give him his inheritance, the share of his father's wealth that would be his when his father died. This was an unusual request but his Father went along with it. He divided his living unto his two sons.

It wasn't long till the younger son took his belongings and went on a journey to a far country. He really had a big time. He had many friends as long as his money lasted. It was something he had never

experienced before. He could do just as he pleased. He wasted his substance with riotous living. His money was soon gone. He may have thought, "When I've spent all I have, I will get a good job and make some more." This wasn't the way it worked out. About the time he had spent everything, there was a famine in the land. It didn't rain; the crops didn't grow and no jobs were to be had — especially for a stranger in a foreign land. What was he to do? I suppose at first he tried to get a nice easy job with big pay; then he would ask for a little lower position and day by day he was refused. There just wasn't anything to be had. He was getting hungrier and more desperate until at last he went to a man who raised hogs. The man didn't pay him any money for the job but said he could eat what the pigs ate! How low can a man get? The food he ate didn't satisfy him at all. It didn't taste good and he lost weight. He was getting hungrier and weaker. One day he got to thinking the thing over and said to himself, "How many servants, of my father, have bread enough and to spare and I perish with hunger! I'm going home and I will say, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.'"

So he started for home. The father loved his son who had run away from home. I can see him watching the road every day, hoping for his return. While the son was a great way off, the father saw him coming. He ran to meet him and hugged him and kissed him. The son was a mess; his clothes were dirty and torn; he hadn't had a bath for days; his shoes were gone. The son said to his father, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and in thy sight and am no more worthy to be called thy son."

Before the son could ask to be made as one of the servants, the father said to his servants, "Bring forth the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his hand; and shoes on his feet; and bring forth the fatted calf. Let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again."

God is our Heavenly Father and he wants us to come home to Him. He loves us and wants to forgive us our sins if we will only repent. God will bless you abundantly if you will give Him your life and trust Him for everything.

Brother Rudy Cover



## SOFT ANSWERS

A missionary in Jamaica was questioning the little black boys on the meaning of Matt. 5:5, and asked, "Who are the meek?" A boy answered: "Those who give soft answers to rough questions."

## GOD'S CARE

While spending much time visiting in a hospital and a Nursing Home, I was much impressed with the thought of God's care, after seeing the many who are suffering the hardships of life's pathway. Back in the time of the old dispensation, through His Word, we see how God cared for and protected His people. Throughout all ages He has cared for His people. A song writer gives us words of comfort.

Be not dismayed whatev'r betide,  
God will take care of you;  
Beneath His wings of love abide,  
God will take care of you.  
God will take care of you,  
Thro' ev'ry day, O'er all the way;  
He will take care of you,  
God will take care of you.

Through God's care, Christ came to earth to open up the way for our salvation. It is an important matter that we accept it and keep it. The true Christian becomes a child of God, under His protecting care.

Are we prepared for what God has prepared for the faithful? Through God's care our Savior brought the saving Gospel for us. Through His care our Saviour has gone to prepare a better place for us. There will be no more crying, heartaches or suffering. Nor darkness or storms. His light is in a place where the walls are of jasper and the streets of pure gold. On that calm and peaceful shore we will rest for evermore after the hardships of life's pathway are past.

We have words of comfort from a song writer.

O yes, He cares; I know He cares,  
His heart is touched with my grief;  
When the days are weary, the long nights dreary,  
I know my Savior cares.

Brother J. F. Marks  
Rt. 9, Box 860, Plant City, Fla. 33566

## FASTING, A SOURCE OF POWER

All Christians, and especially those who teach and preach the Word of God, desire ability to learn and to understand the Scriptures. We need Bible Study, Prayer and Fasting.

When we enter into the study of any portion of Scripture we should be sure to ask God for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and with David of old say, "Open thou mine eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law." Psa. 119:18.

Christ set an example in fasting inasmuch as He fasted forty days and nights. That was after His baptism and before His public ministry.

Fasting is a source of power from God. As a proof of this point, I would ask you to recall the Bible story of the father who brought his afflicted son. The son had a dumb spirit. Jesus had been on the mount of transfiguration. The disciples had tried to cast out the spirit, but they could not. After Jesus had healed the afflicted one, the disciples asked Him privately why they could not cast him out. And He said unto them, "This kind can come forth by nothing but by prayer and fasting." Mark 9:29.

The disciples did not have the power. They were not prepared. Why? They had not fasted. They did not have the opportunity at this immediate time to attain that power, or to build up the power which God gives to those who fast. This reserve power must be gained before the necessity to use it arises. So they were unprepared. Jesus had done His fasting in advance, so He was prepared when the emergency arose.

We would not start out in the Christian life and say (or act out), "Well, I shall wait to pray until something dreadful happens. Then in a tragic moment, when I cannot help myself, I will call upon the Lord." No, we would rather cultivate the privilege of praying from time to time. Then if some tragic event should take place, we can come to God and He will hear us. But I am doubtful if He regards and answers the prayer of the person who prays only when he is driven to it or almost forced because of fearful conditions and danger.

Now the same is also true with fasting. We should begin little by little, willingly, and not wait until we are so concerned about something terrible that we cannot eat. Such fasting is not of our free will but is forced upon us, and God can scarcely give us any blessing for that. It is just like the man who failed to pray until tragedy struck.

The Sunday School children learn of the Bible from year to year. Then they decide to become Christians. They read the Bible more carefully and find the teachings concerning fasting. We, as children, read in Matthew, the sixth chapter, about two special subjects, Prayer and Fasting. We notice it said, "When ye pray . . .", as though there was no doubt but what you would pray. Next it said, "When ye fast . . .", again leaving no doubt but what you would fast. The young Bible reader sees that it results in Power from God. The lambs of the flock want to grow. They want to learn the Word of God. They want God through the Holy Spirit to help them to understand its teachings, that they may become useful helpers in the work of the Church. They want to learn to pray and fast.

### A set or fixed time.

It is very helpful even necessary, to decide on a certain time to Read, Study, Pray, Fast. It is helpful for the homemakers to have set times for their household tasks, lest some of the necessary things might be left undone from the regular week's work and be found lacking at the end of the week. So also must the Brethren set a time for Bible Study, lest the appointed time come for teaching and preaching, and they be found unprepared.

How do we prepare to be of service in the Lord's work? I repeat, it is of great value to set a time to read and study God's Word. Set for yourself certain hours of every day, on certain days. Children may read each evening. Adults pick your own time. But always ask God's blessing on the reading, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit to give you understanding. Also have a set time for prayer, whether it be private or family, or both. Then it will become a part of your life.

The Church fasted and prayed before sending out Barnabas and Saul as missionaries, Acts 13. They did the same when they ordained Elders, Acts 14:23. From II Cor. 6:4, 5 the Apostle Paul says, "But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God . . . and in fastings." Many Bible characters fasted individually. Others fasted in groups.

Fasting also will fit in more smoothly than you might imagine by having a set time. Some have found Sunday evenings as a good time. There are homes which do not set the table on that evening, so that whoever would desire to fast can easily do so. However, let those who desire to fast choose their own time.

We all need to build up our Spiritual Power, our reserve. We are something like a car battery. If we leave it unused, we might think we could hurry and get it in time of emergency, but it would not be of any use. Let those of you who would desire power with God begin by a small fast once a week, and build up your reserve power. You will realize that God is with you and that the blessings of God are upon you.

You may at times be able to Study, Pray and Fast during the same hour. But like our natural work, when we cannot do three things at once we do one or two. But we keep doing. Bible discussion will be a joy, teaching a pleasure, and the preaching will yield greater returns.

Selected from January 15, 1955 issue of  
Bible Monitor by Sister Beulah Fitz



"Not good if detached," so reads your railroad ticket. Something like that could be said of those who detach themselves from the church.

## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR AUGUST, 1981**

Aug. 2 — Paul Preaches to Jews at Antioch; A Light to the Gentiles - Acts 13:14-52.

Aug. 9 — Paul Heals a Cripple at Lystra; Paul Stoned - Acts 14:1-28

Aug. 16 — The Conference at Jerusalem - Acts 15:1-41.

Aug. 23 — Paul and Silas go to Macedonia - Acts 16:1-15.

Aug. 30 — The Jailor Converted - Acts 16:16-40.

### **QUESTIONS:**

- (1) Paul brought the Gospel to the Jews first. When they refused the Gospel, whom did he turn to? - Acts 13:47.
- (2) Paul was stoned and left for dead. What did he do the next day? Acts 14:20.
- (3) What three things did James suggest that the Gentiles abstain from? - Acts 15:20.
- (4) Paul and Timothy were determined to go to Bithynia but the Spirit would not let them. Where did they go? - Acts 16:10.
- (5) The jailor of the prison at Philippi said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" What was he told to do? - Acts 16:31.

## **NEWS ITEM**

### **SHREWSBURY, PENNSYLVANIA**

We want to invite you to our Revival Meeting, which will be August 2 through August 16. The Lord willing, Elder Edward Johnson will be our Evangelist. Pray for these meetings. Come and hear the message God has for us.

We enjoyed another Lovefeast May 24, which was another Christian experience with God's people. We thank the following visiting ministers who came and shared the day with us: Howard Surbey, Frank Shaffer, Ray Shank, Paul Hartz, Virgil Leatherman, Eldon Mallow, and Kenneth Wolfe, who officiated in the evening.

Sister Fern Ness, Cor.

## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR AUGUST, 1981

Memory Verse: Gal. 6:7

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

Sat. 1 — 2 Cor. 6:1-18

Memory Verse: Eph. 4:14

That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

Sun. 2 — 2 Cor. 11:1-23

Mon. 3 — Gal. 6:1-18

Tues. 4 — Eph. 4:1-16

Wed. 5 — Eph. 4:17-32

Thur. 6 — Eph. 5:1-21

Fri. 7 — Col. 2:1-23

Sat. 8 — 1 Thess. 2:1-20

Memory Verse: Col. 2:8

Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

Sun. 9 — 2 Thess. 2:1-17

Mon. 10 — 1 Tim. 2:1-15

Tues. 11 — 2 Tim. 3:1-17

Wed. 12 — Tit. 1:1-16

Thur. 13 — Tit. 3:1-15

Fri. 14 — Heb. 3:1-19

Sat. 15 — James 1:1-27

Memory Verse: Heb. 3:1

But exhort one another daily, while it is called today; lest any

of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

Sun. 16 — 2 Pet. 2:1-22

Mon. 17 — 1 John 1:1-10

Tues. 18 — 1 John 3:1-24

Wed. 19 — 2 John 1:1-13

Thur. 20 — Rev. 12:1-17

Fri. 21 — Rev. 13:1-18

Sat. 22 — Rev. 18:1-24

Memory Verse: 1 John 3:7

Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous.

Sun. 23 — Rev. 19:1-21

Mon. 24 — Rev. 20:1-15

Tues. 25 — 1 Chron. 16:7-36

Wed. 26 — Ezra 9:1-15

Thur. 27 — Isa. 59:1-19

Fri. 28 — John 3:1-21

Sat. 29 — Rom. 3:9-31

Memory Verse: 1 Chron. 16:8

Give thanks unto the Lord, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people.

Sun. 30 — Rom. 8:1-18

Mon. 31 — Col. 3:1-17

Memory Verse — II John 7.

For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.

Rom. 8:13. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.

Paul R. Myers  
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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

AUGUST 1, 1981

NO. 15

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## DARE TO BE BRAVE

Dare to be brave, dare to be true,  
Strive for the right, for the Lord is with you;  
Fight with sin bravely, fight and be strong,  
Christ is your Captain, fear only what's wrong.

Dare to be brave, dare to be true,  
God is your Father, he watches o'er you;  
He knows your trials; when your heart quails,  
Call him to rescue, his grace never fails.

Dare to be brave, dare to be true,  
God grant you courage to carry you through;  
Try to help others, ever be kind,  
Let the oppressed a strong friend in you find.

- W. J. Rooper

## WHERE WERE YOU?

Speculation concerning what might have been is generally of no value. The past can not be changed. But if it helps us to examine ourselves then it can be valuable.

As we look into history, it is often thought-provoking to wonder how we would have behaved in certain crisis. The history of the Brethren contains many crises that has shaped us as a people. We look back to the leaders of old and marvel at their faith, fortitude and feeling. We wonder how they were able to stand. Would we have stood? Would we have made the choices they did? Will we make the same choices today they made in their day?

When the Brethren organized at Schwarzenau in 1708, would you have been among the number? If you had been there, would there have been nine instead of eight who were baptized in the River Eder? Would you have been in favor of organizing a congregation and reinstituting the ordinances that had fallen into disuse? Would you have been willing to do this when your neighbors and friends and religious associates, who were good people, opposed this step? While they were spiritualizing the ordinances would you have been willing to physically participate in them? Could you withstand the alienization of friends and family when you took this step? Could you have faced the persecution that arose around these Brethren?

When Peter Becker led the first Brethren to the New World in 1719, would you have had the courage to board that ship knowing it would be a dangerous, uncertain journey? Would your faith have survived not only the rigors of the ocean journey, but also the rigors of carving out a living in a hostile land? Would your faith

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## THE BIBLE MONITOR

## AUGUST 1, 1981

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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have survived the division and separation that plagued these first immigrants? Would you have been a participate at the first American Lovefeast, December 25, 1723? Was it your faith and life that influenced the first American converts to be baptized that day? Instead of twenty-three surrounding that table that evening, would there have been twenty-four, if you had been there?

In the crisis of division where would you have been? Conrad Beissel brought strange doctrines and practices into the Church. Being a persuasive man he had gathered quite a following, especially in the Conestoga Congregation. Most of his followers had retired with him to the Cloisters at Ephrata but still others remained in their congregations, which fostered division and disunity. A meeting was called in 1734 in a barn. A rail was laid in the middle of the floor. Each member made their choice of leader and doctrine by stepping to one side or the other of the rail. There was a decided choice to be made there. It put an end to halfway acceptance of strange practices. If you had been there, which side of the rail would you have chosen? Would you have followed the popular, charismatic Beissel or would you have followed the conservatives such as Alexander Mack, Peter Becker and Michael Frantz? Would you have followed the popular course which decayed in a few decades or would you have followed the way that has survived to this day?

Where would you have been during the Revolutionary War? Despite the popularity of that struggle, would you have taken the oath of allegiance to the new government? Would you have been present on muster days to prove your loyalty? How would your nonresistance and nonswearing principles have fared under those adverse circumstances? When you saw Elder Christopher Sower physically and economically abused, how much courage would you have had?

Would you have been involved in the spreading of the Gospel to the West? Could you have stood the rigors of the journey west? Would your life have been a positive influence on your new neighbors, so the Church would soon be established and growing even on the frontier?

What choice would you have made during the divisions of the 1880's? When congregations and families were split, which way would you have gone? As the pressures of the world have continued to work on the Church, what influence have they had on you? What choices have you made through the years that have been as courageous as those made by your Spiritual forefathers?

This has been speculation. None of us lived in the days of past crisis. But today is also a time of crisis for the Christian. The same faith and fortitude that our forefathers had are needed today. We can not make the decisions of 1708, 1734 or 1881 but we must make our choices today. Where are you?

## THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

### THE OTHER SON

Luke 15:25-32

There was a man who had two sons. The younger son went away from home, spent all his money, ended up feeding hogs and came home broke. He learned his lesson, repented and was received home by his father.

The other son was the eldest. In ancient times the eldest son was given more responsibility and also received two portions when an inheritance was divided. When the younger son asked for his share, the father divided unto them his living or his money and property. Because there were only two sons, the elder son would have received twice as much as the younger. The eldest son was, according to the custom of that day, looked up to and was in charge of family affairs and servants. Only his father's word was more important than his. I suppose the eldest son could get to feeling very important and would more or less despise his younger brother.

When the younger brother left home, the other brother couldn't have cared less. I don't doubt that he hoped that he would never return. We can understand a little more of how the inheritance was divided when the father, entreating the elder son to celebrate the return of the younger, said, "Son, thou art ever with me and all that I have is thine." The younger son was paid off in cash and the remaining property was given to the other son.

They were having a celebration. The younger son had returned. When the other son came near the house, he heard music and dancing. He had been out working in the field, helping or managing the harvest of grain or some such work. He called one of the servants and asked what all this was about. The servant said, "Thy brother is come and your father has killed the fatted calf because he is safe and sound." The fatted calf was an animal that had been fed extra well so when they had guests of importance, they could have some extra good meat. It was killed only for great occasions.

The other brother was angry when he heard his brother had returned and would not go in and join the celebration. When the father heard that his other son would not come in, he went out and entreated him to come. Listen to what the elder son said, "These many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time your commandment; and yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make much merry with my friends: but as soon as this, thy son, left

home, spent all the money that you gave him and wasted it, you have killed for him the fatted calf."

The elder brother did not have love or compassion for his brother. I think he would have been glad if his brother had died and never returned. The younger son was foolish but he came to himself and repented. The other brother was self righteous and considered himself better than his brother. Which is worse: to spend your money foolishly or hoard it, as a miser, and never do any good with it? I think the elder brother did just that. Because he had received the inheritance of the property and land, in a sense, even the fatted calf was his and he begrudged his brother even that! He was like the self-righteous Pharisee who stood and prayed, "God, I thank thee, I am not as other men are: extortioners, unjust, adulterers or even as this publican. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all I possess." The publican would not so much as lift up his eyes unto heaven, but smote his breast and said, "God be merciful to me, a sinner." Jesus said that this publican was justified rather than the other.

We are all dependant upon our Heavenly Father — just as the two sons were of their father. Our blessings all come from God. Jesus said, "Without me, ye can do nothing." We must trust God for everything and when we think we are better than others, God is not pleased. The other son should have had love for his brother and been glad to see him come to himself and return to his father's house. The father said, "For this thy brother was dead and is alive again; and was lost and is found." Don't be like the other son!

Brother Rudy Cover

## THE LIFELINE OF FAITH

"For we walk by faith, not by sight." II Cor. 5:7. The Christian walk is truly a walk of faith, of knowing God loves us because He said so and trusting Him to take care of us. It is not for us to see ahead, but to take each step as it comes, knowing God will lead us on from there. Our walk is to be in newness of life (Rom. 6:4), in the Spirit (Gal. 5:16), in love and wisdom (Eph. 5:2, 15), in the light and truth (I John 1:7; III John 4). We need something to hold on to, something to keep us stable and that something is faith, our lifeline to God.

To receive faith to begin the Christian walk, you need to hear God's Word. "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Rom. 10:17. There is alot of information floating around about God, the plan of salvation, what He expects of His children and so on, but the only reliable source of information is

God's Word. You may hear many things which sound good, but if you can't verify them by God's Word, forget them. The only faith you'll end up with is faith in man's philosophies, which is only a dead end street.

Faith is needed for several reasons, first of all for salvation. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God." Eph. 2:8. See also Rom. 10:9-10. Following the gift of salvation, faith is needed in our everyday lives, for "without faith it is impossible to please him." Heb. 11:6. Trusting God for our salvation, but not trusting Him to take care of us thereafter indicates an incomplete faith. God loves us wholly and completely and wants to provide for our total need. To qualify for His care, all God asks us to do is have faith in Him.

Faith is needed to protect us from Satan's attacks and is a part of our spiritual armor. Eph. 6:16 speaks of a shield of faith, very important because a shield can be moved to cover the area under attack. Faith is needed also to enable us to overcome the trials and temptations which come our way (I John 5:4). Faith is necessary in prayer: "And all things whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive." Matt. 21:22. If we are to receive anything from God, we must have faith. If we doubt, we will go away empty. See James 1:5-7.

Faith has some "partners" such as love (Gal. 5:6) and works (James 2:17). In I John 3:23, we are commanded to believe in Christ and also love one another. Love is proof of discipleship (John 13:35) and if we do not have this love, our faith won't mean much. "And though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains and have not charity, I am nothing." I Cor. 13:2. The things we say and do in our everyday lives must likewise correspond to our faith, or it all becomes meaningless. The things we do and the love we give work together to make our faith alive and real to those around us.

Faith is defined as "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Heb. 11:1. Faith comes to us as a gift from God, and in that way He gives us assurance of the reality of His promises to us. One promise, salvation, is for all who will believe (see John 3:14-18); it does not apply until we personally have faith in Christ and claim that promise. Christ then dwells in our hearts by faith (Eph. 3:17) and the Spirit is promised to us through faith (Gal. 3:14). Faith is the lifeline which enables us to receive the blessings God has promised.

God gives us the initial gift of faith, then strengthens and increases it as we walk with Him. Sometimes discouragements come, sometimes we must wait and wait for our prayers to be

answered. Other times we may not know where the next meal is coming from. God chooses not to reveal the solution until the last moment because He wants us to trust Him, and to learn to rest in His care. He wants us to have the kind of faith which can wait in peace, even when everything looks hopeless. We often waste a lot of energy trying to solve our own problems, when we should be trusting God for the answer.

The trying of our faith by temptations, discouragements, having to wait when we want to hurry and so forth increases our patience or ability to calmly endure. But deep, heartfelt suffering has a more profound effect. "But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered awhile, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you." I Pet. 5:10. Suffering may cause us to think God doesn't care about us, but it doesn't come just to make us miserable. It comes to produce in us faith which is not easily shaken.

A lifeline is what you hold on to, that which secures you to a safe place. Mountain climbers, cave explorers and divers use them. Faith in God is your spiritual lifeline, that which keeps you secure in Christ. Faith brings you peace, the opposite of doubt which brings confusion and distress. Faith says there is a way and give hope; doubt says there's no use trying. Faith looks to Christ as Peter did when he tried walking on the water; doubt looks at the stormy waters of life as Peter looked at the huge waves just before he sank. Faith is trusting Christ for all things in all situations. Faith is the victory that overcomes the world and enables you to ride out the storms of life in peace. So you have this lifeline to God?

Sister Eileen Broadwater



## SHOW ME THE DOCTOR

A blind man, who had never seen from his birth, found a lady who, appreciating his worth, became his wife. Several bright children became theirs, who tenderly loved their blind father. An eminent physician met the blind man and informed him that his sight could be restored. The operation was performed successfully. The father was handed a rose; he had smelled one, but had never seen one before. Then he looked upon the face of his wife, who had been so true; and then the children were brought who he had so often fondled. All at once he exclaimed: "Oh, why have I seen all these before inquiring for the man by whose skill I have been enabled to behold them! Show me the doctor!"

## RENDER TO GOD THE THINGS THAT ARE GOD'S

"And when they were come, they say unto him, Master, we know that thou art true, and carest for no man: for thou regardest not the person of men, but teachest the way of God in truth: Is it lawful to give tribute to Caesar, or not? Shall we give, or shall we not give? But he, knowing their hypocrisy, said unto them, Why tempt ye me? bring me a penny, that I may see it. And they brought it. And he saith unto them, whose is this image and superscription? And they said unto him, Caesar's. And Jesus answering said unto them, Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's. And they marvelled at him." Mark 12:14-17.

"... and to God, the things that are God's." As Christian people we regularly pay our tribute to Caesar but too often forget that which is God's. If Caesar's image is on the coin, where do we find the image of God? It is stamped on the face of our children. ("And God said, let us make man in our image..." Genesis 1:26) A babe without sin is the perfect image of God.

These children whom God entrusts to us are not Caesar's, nor are they to be taught by Caesar. Nor should they be under Caesar's influence for six hours a day, one hundred eighty days a year, for thirteen years. Let's ground them in the faith before they must receive Caesar's influence.

What are the histories of some of the Bible children who were placed under worldly circumstances? Joseph was still a young lad when he was sold by his brothers and taken to the land of Egypt, but he was at least seventeen years old (Genesis 37:2). His faith had been grounded by teachings early in his life and he endured.

David was another youth called by God to stand against the Philistines. His age is not known, but he was old enough to have the responsibility of his father's sheep, and he had already killed a lion and a bear. His faith had been molded before he went to battle.

Daniel was considered a youth when taken away to Babylon but he was old enough to have an understanding in science (Daniel 1:4). The teachings of his home and faith were strong. He held out against the temptations of Caesar.

Jesus himself did not begin his ministry among sinners until his adult years. He had great understanding at age twelve (Luke 2:42-47) but verse 51 says that He came to Nazareth and was subject unto them (his parents). Verse 52 states, "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man." What a great pattern for our children of today!

Two examples of very young children under the care of someone other than parents are Moses and Samuel. Samuel was taken

to the temple (I Samuel 1:28) in fulfillment of Hannah's promise. He was certainly rooted and grounded in the faith under Eli's direction (I Samuel 3:1) and Hannah's prayers.

Moses was raised as the son of Pharaoh and in Acts 7:22 we read how he was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians. How much more to his benefit had he had been reared in the nurture and admonition of the Lord! Moses did return to his God after his Egyptian training (Hebrews 11:23-29). But what a wasted forty years! Perhaps no more beneficial than forty years in the wilderness. Or for the child of today, as worthy as thirteen years spent under the influence of humanism, homecoming dances, sweetheart queens, cigarettes, drugs, profanity, near-nakedness, class rings, teachers living in sin, disrespect for authority and evolution? Most of you reading this are Christians and are graduates of Egyptian schools. How much closer would our walk with Christ be today had we had thirteen years of intensified training in how to live from God's point of view?

Let's give our Davids, and Josephs, and Daniels a real foundation, and then send them out to be lights to the Philistines, the Egyptians, and the Babylonians. Let's train our six to seventeen year-olds in Church established schools. They'll learn how to live for God and thus be able to make a living that's worth living. Caesar can have my coins but not my children.

Sister Mary Sue Moss

R#1, Dallas Center, Iowa 50063

## 1981 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Continued from July 15, 1981 Issue

SATURDAY P.M.

Second Speaker: Bro. David Kegerreis. Lift Up a Standard. Isa. 62.

Jerusalem has been in the center of God's care. He has given many prophecies concerning her. Whether all the prophecies of this chapter have been fulfilled now, we know there is a day coming when they will be. Jerusalem is the city of God. It is Zion. On the map we can see that she is surrounded by the hills.

Lift up a standard for the people. The highways of this land are beautiful allowing us to travel to this meeting. But where are all the others going? It is a highway without hindrances. The stones have been removed. The people then didn't receive this message for some reason.

We must bring this down to us today. We are thinking of

Jerusalem as a picture of the Church, the people of God. We take this as a message for ourselves. We must take out the stones, the sins that easily beset us. Sin came in many different avenues. There is a desire for natural things of the flesh. These must be removed. There are stones in the pathway that have not been picked up. Therefore a standard must be lifted up for the people that they might avoid these dangerous stumbling stones. It is our intention to help people find the right way by upholding a standard. Many of these standards have been abolished in this land.

We must uphold the standards of the Church. One of the reasons for the fallen standard within many churches is the doctrine of eternal security. It has lulled people into thinking they do not need to live up to the Church's standard. That doctrine is a false hope. Holy living has about disappeared because of it. Without holiness no man can see God. Holiness is respect for God and His Word.

Justification comes by faith. But faith without works is dead. It must be a living faith. A living faith upholds a high standard. If ye love me ye will keep my commandments. But today the members do everything the world does. We are to lift up a standard to others by the life we live. That kind of living is sanctification. The world goes its merry way but we have a standard to hold up. We may not be popular for that standard but we need not worry about that. If God is with us we are a majority. We need never fear any other. If God tells you to do something, do it.

The standard of the Church includes the guidelines she gives us to follow. These decisions were prompted by the Holy Spirit and should be followed. To live this kind of life will always involve a struggle. When we do fail we have a remedy in Jesus Christ at the right hand of the Father, who will be our advocate when we confess our fault.

We need to consider the standards of the home as well as of the Church. The average American home is a sad sight. We must have a standard in the home concerning the Bible and the Church. If they are upheld in the home then the children can turn to them. There is no standard in the world's homes. "No" must be used many times in the home. In order to raise a family that is pleasing to God, standards must be set in the home. Children can not be allowed to mingle with the world's devices. It can be done with love and with sound explanation. Are we preparing our children to make the right choices in life?

The world has parties and all that goes on there but the Christian has so much more. Do we have faith enough to realize what we have? We have Jesus Christ who died for salvation and is now our

Heavenly Advocate. We have faith for our justification. We must put our faith to work. If we do we will uphold the things the Church has set as a standard for us. God's Word will lead and direct each one of us. Are husband and wife united on the standard for the home based on the Bible? Children respect a home standard, even though they try to get away with all they can. We must expect that we are raising our children to be Christians. We must start with them when they are young.

What are the standards of the schools of today. The schools have changed over the years. There is little discipline and control. There are too many other things allowed there. The standards are continually being lowered. Despite the lowering of standards in the home, the school and society, this is still the best land in the world but it is decaying. With all the higher education today it would seem we would have a wonderful society but we don't. Today we have teacher strikes instead of it being a profession. Their insistence on monetary rewards lowers the influence on the children.

What are our personal standards? Are we living up to the Church's standards willingly? Are we doing even more than what the Church requires? A high standard is a light unto other people. We are to be a called out people. If we do the same as they do, we are not lifting up a better way for them. The fashions of the world may continually change but we serve an unchanging God. The Gospel calls for pure living, holiness and sanctification. The Spirit has been sent to direct us so we don't falter along the way. It will not work to set up our own standard. We see in the Bible what happened to those who had and those who did not have a standard. Eli was a prophet but he failed to lift a standard for his sons. There was a sad story. Saul started out to follow God's standard but later rejected it and his end was terrible. He didn't destroy Amalekites like he was commanded. Ahab and Jezebel were especially opposed to God's standard and their end was awful.

Joseph upheld the standard he had been taught when he was down in Egypt. Although he suffered for a time yet he was promoted in the end. Daniel upheld the standard of prayer daily.

Do you have God's standards in your life? If you do uphold them, you can have the peace that passeth understanding. What kind of standard are you upholding today? If we have the faith and desire God will help to uphold the right standard.

Closing: Bro. Kenneth Wolfe.

The Lord has given us some commands to follow to prepare us for His coming again. We are here to hear the Word of God. Now

we must profit from it by applying it to our heart and life. We have been left a work to do while He tarries. He wants us to be a joyful and peaceful people. To be a happy people we must have peace. We must have peace with God to have it with fellow man. We must be born again. We must lift Jesus up. We must decrease and Jesus must increase. God gave a standard to the children of Israel when they came out of Egypt. They failed it many times. How about us? A standard needs to be upheld for the Church by the ministry. The vine is no better than any other tree unless it bears fruit. We must bear fruit. We can either be a stumbling block or a stepping stone for others.

To be continued

## **OH BE CAREFUL WHERE YOU STEP**

Greetings of love we send to each one who knows the value of prayer and the earnestness of following our Lord and Master. There seems to be much doing every day. We hurry here and hurry there, laugh, have fun, come home, lie down, and the next thing we know we have a normal routine — eat, drink, lie down, and rise up to play.

Let us start the day by stepping into the family room for a look into God's Word and a season of prayer together. As I roll back the hands of time, I see now why my parents took the time for family worship. I wondered at the time of courtship and marriage how worship could mean so much to us. I look back now and realize how little time we took for discussion of God's Word and for prayer together when we were courting. It is a prize possession that we as a Christian should possess. Take that STEP, young people, and pray fervently together, removing all your past sins and mistakes. Now we, as parents, have a greater responsibility towards our children that we make DEFINITELY sure that devotions are carried out in the home. You, who have recently joined hands with a life companion, take this STEP very seriously and make sure you have your daily devotions, whether at the table or in a special room. They are a must if you want to stay closely knit together. Keep your lines open to God and your day will go much smoother.

When we mingle with the world at our work or place of business, do we tend to agree with their worldly pleasures? Is it right to wait on a customer who has no shirt on, displaying his natural flesh? Are we in a sense agreeing with him that it is okay to dress that way? Shouldn't we take a step in God's direction and let him know we don't approve? We don't have to look at these indecently dressed people. If we can't pass the test, show our colors, and stand for God here on this earth, how are we going to pass the test

on the judgment day? I Thess. 5:22 "Abstain from all appearance of evil."

Be careful, young and old alike, where you go. Don't go along with the young people who push drugs and get high. It is only the devil himself and he will carry us deeper into sin, which is a step in the wrong direction.

Many today are picking sides and saying, "I like him because we can do thus and so." Another one says, "I'll go with him because we can do this and the other group won't let us." Do we let people lead us around all the time or do we stop to weigh our thoughts to see if it is in accordance with God's Word? I believe many Christian people today are doing what others do just to be fashionable, making a show and causing pride to be sown in the heart. There are Churches today who have only one leader. All other members must follow or listen to the leader. To me that is a cult in itself. I Timothy 3 speaks of the Bishop desiring a good work. If he conforms to the teachings of the rest of the chapter he would be a good Bishop. A congregation can have more than one bishop and the one that desires that office should seek God's direction and the Church's consent. The same chapter speaks of deacons in the Church. If we want to have a future Church, we should be electing young brethren to the ministry and take that vital step of keeping the church fires burning for the cause of Christ and salvation for lost souls.

Let us be a little slower in our steps to decide right from wrong. There's no path you can retrace. It behooves us to always watch each step we tread and not go astray. "Because strait is the gate and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Matt. 7:14. Keep the Gospel as your guide, keep up faith and courage to stay on that perfect way that will lead you to Heaven, for there is the great reward you will some day reap.

Wouldn't it be worth it all to follow Jesus instead of someone's hair style, someone's wearing apparel, or someone's idol of drinking, drugs and sporty ways?

The world is so full of sin and deceit that we dare not get our eyes off Jesus. Life is too short to step any which way. Perilous times will come, there will be divisions among us. Which side will you follow? Oh, BE CAREFUL WHERE YOU STEP!!!

In Christian love,  
Sister Shirley Frick

## CHURCH MEMBERS WHO ARE NOT CHRISTIANS

"Dick," said a young wife, "I've been a very happy woman for four years now, but if only one other thing could be, I think I'd be the happiest woman in the world."

"Well, Mollie, what is it? I'd do anything for you."

"Oh, Dick! If you were only a Christian!"

"Well, Mollie, are you a Christian?"

"Why, yes, Dick."

"Well, Mollie, I... didn't know it."

Dick went into a brown study for a moment and then said, "Mollie, you don't swear, do you?"

"No, Dick."

"Well, I don't either. Mollie, you don't steal, do you?"

"No, Dick."

"Well, I don't either. And Mollie, you don't get drunk, do you?"

"Why, no, Dick; of course I don't! Why do you ask me such questions?"

"Well, Mollie, you play cards, don't you, and for prizes?"

"Certainly, Dick; there's no harm in that."

"Well, Mollie, I do too. Mollie, you go to the theatre, don't you?"

"Why, yes, Dick."

"Well, I do too. And Mollie, you drink wine, don't you?"

"Oh, yes, I do that out of courtesy to the hostess."

"Well, I do too. And Mollie, you dance, don't you?"

"Why, yes; I love to dance."

"Well, Mollie, I do too. And now, Mollie, if you will tell me the difference between the kind of life you are living and the kind of life I am living, I think I would be willing to become a Christian, if there's any difference."

Mollie sat down and thought a moment, and then burst into tears. And Dick said, "I did not mean to hurt your feelings; you must forgive me."

"No, Dick, it is I who need to ask for your forgiveness; and by the grace of God you shall have a Christian woman for a wife from this time on."

Just fourteen months from that time Dick stood up in a religious gathering and said: "For six months I have been a Christian won to Christ by the earnest, beautiful, consistent Christian life of my devoted wife."

Listen! If the religion of Jesus Christ doesn't make any difference between the way you live and the way your unconverted

friends and relatives live, it is not worth recommending to them as a religion for doing the things the religion of Jesus Christ is supposed to do.

"Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." Romans 12:2.

Let Christ come into your heart to live and reign and He will transform you. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." II Corinthians 5:17.

Now, dear friend, for the sake of your own eternal welfare, repent of all sin, confess Christ as your personal Saviour, give up all worldliness for Jesus' sake and serve Him with all your heart, and work for the salvation of souls, then you will have nothing to fear on that "Great Day", for God will reward the faithful (Matt. 25:23), but, remember that if you love the world, then you are God's enemy. (James 4:4). "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world." (I John 5:4).

Selected by Brother Ray Stuber

## NEWS ITEMS

### GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Lord willing, the Grandview Congregation plans to hold their revival meeting, Sunday, July 26 through Sunday, August 2, with our Lovefeast on Saturday evening, August 1.

Bro. David Skiles of Cuba, New Mexico will be the evangelist.

We invite all who can to come and worship with us.

Sister Bertha Jarboe, Cor.

### A GREETING OF THANKS

I want to take this opportunity to thank each one who offered prayer in my behalf while I was in the hospital.

I wish to thank everyone so much for your thoughtfulness in sending cards and monetary gifts to cheer my day.

May the Lord bless you abundantly.

In Christian love,  
Sister Maxine Surbey

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

AUGUST 15, 1981

NO. 16

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## I WILL FOLLOW THEE

I will follow thee, my Savior,  
Wheresoe'er my lot may be;  
Where thou goest I will follow,  
Yes, my Lord, I'll follow thee.

Tho' the road be rough and thorny,  
Trackless as the foaming sea,  
Thou hast trod this way before me,  
And I gladly follow thee.

Tho' 'tis lone, and dark, and dreary,  
Cheerless tho' my path may be,  
If thy voice I hear before me,  
Fearlessly I'll follow thee.

Tho' I meet with tribulation,  
Sorely tempted tho' I be,  
I remember thou wast tempted.  
And rejoice to follow thee.

Tho' thou ledest thro' afflictions,  
Poor, forsaken thou' I be,  
Thou wast destitute, afflicted,  
And I only follow thee.

- James Lawson

## **BREAKING THE BANDS**

"The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us." Psalms 2:2-3.

Rebellion and disobedience are bound in the heart of men. After God created man, He set him in the Garden, where he was given very few bounds. God did not give Adam and Eve a long list of dos and don'ts. He forbade them to eat of two trees only. With the freedom and blessings granted them, it would be thought that disobedience would not be a problem for them. But with Satan's prompting, the spirit of rebellion caused Adam and Eve to fall. Their pattern has been followed by their descendants ever since.

Speaking and acting against the established law comes after urging and contemplation. Satan urged Adam and Eve to try God out. Just as all who would tempt to disobedience, he was proven to be a liar. Sin still entices with promises of reward, pleasure, promotion or favor. But the same price is still exacted today as in our foreparents' day. Satan does not like boundries, bands or cords. He does not want any hindrances thrown in the way of total freedom of mankind. He promotes the notion that each is able to choose according to his own conscience or desires what he wants to do, without any hindrances from others or especially from God.

The Psalmist speaks of the self-promotion of kings and rulers. While there have been some rulers who have attempted to rule justly and to carry out God's will, the vast majority have ruled to please themselves, often in cruel, dishonest and immoral ways. Many have attempted to be as gods and demand the worship that

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### **THE BIBLE MONITOR**

### **AUGUST 15, 1981**

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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should be reserved for God. Nebuchadnezzar, Darius, and Herold are but a few mentioned in the Bible, who considered themselves worthy of their subjects' total worship. There have been many since Bible times who have promoted this same idea. The leaders of a nation have a large influence upon the moral tone of their population. When the ruler establishes himself as God, his people are deprived of the fulfillment of their greatest need — a right relationship with God. Their moral conduct will settle to the level of their leader. If their leader has followed men rather than God, then their morals will be at man's low level. A man who will steal God's glory can not lift his people's morals any higher than his own.

The Psalmist speaks of their desire to speak against God and Christ and against the bands and restrictions that have been set for the good of all. The human heart does not want to be held back or tied down by God's law of righteousness. It is however not only the kings and governors and presidents who have this feeling. It is a common among all mankind. We all are, in a sense, kings or rulers over our own hearts, lives and homes, because we are free moral agents with the power of choice. Therefore this warning can be applied to each person. Each needs to beware of speaking and acting against the bands and cords that God has set before all men to be observed.

It is evident that not all men, not even a majority, give heed to the boundaries that God has set for their behaviour. It would be too much to expect that a world, under the dominion of Satan, would desire to follow God's pattern. But we would expect to find Christians observing these teachings. It is sad that many have the same spirit of rebellion as the kings and rulers. Today there is a desire for liberty within the Church. It is not a liberty to serve God as He wills or as a freedom from that which is wrong, but a liberty to do as each would please. At the time of the Judges there was a similar condition when "...every man did that which was right in his own eyes." It was a time of confusion, defeat and low morality. Many of the teachings and practices of the New Testament are disregarded and relegated to the discard pile. The ordinances of the House of God have been forgotten, de-emphasized or changed. Personal conduct and appearance have become unimportant. This disregard of God's bands and cords have brought a condition of low morality and little power into popular Christianity today.

The observance of the restrictions within the Church is not solely dependent upon the officials of the Church. They have a part to bear in holding the way of righteousness before their people, but each member has a responsibility to uphold and obey the restrictions that have been set for the Spiritual welfare of the Church.

Do not speak against God's bands and cords. Uphold them for they are for your good.

## **I'M A MILLIONAIRE!**

The cool morning breeze made the curtains in our bedroom dance merrily and the sun was streaming in the windows. A little girl in her pajamas was carrying on a one sided conversation in her baby talk and was kicking her chubby legs. Another day had begun and there was much on the schedule for today.

The morning was so refreshing after several days of hot, humid weather. The birds were chirping so merrily as if they were enjoying the relief, too.

The sunshine brightened our kitchen so we had to pull the curtains. We sat down for breakfast and I began to think of our many blessings.

For devotions we read Hebrews 11. Oh, for the faith of our fathers! How thankful we can be for the ones who have set such a good example for us and given us such a treasured heritage. That was a pleasant thought to begin the day on.

What a privilege to have the health and strength to tackle a day's work. As I sewed, our little girl played contentedly with her toys until she began rubbing her eyes in sleepiness. I put her to bed. A child — what a precious gift.

With her sleeping, I slipped outdoors to work in the garden. Oh, what a LOVELY morning! The birds filled the air with a melody so beautiful. A squirrel hopped across the lawn pausing about ten feet from me. What a graceful, lithe animal. Two little kittens came running up to greet me.

I stood in awe and looked around. How could the weather have been better? How could the scenery be more beautiful? How could God be more wonderful? Who would exchange this peace, joy, and happiness for any amount of money in the world?

The fields before me were long rows of green, green soybeans. Their leaves blowing in the breeze made waves on the green ocean. The dark brown soil was hardly visible between the rows because of all the foliage.

Behind me there was a huge field of tall, healthy corn just starting to tassel. The leaves were a dark green and the plants stood so straight and tall stretching toward the vast blue sky. The long slender leaves were gently rustling in the breeze.

Petunias in their pink, red, and purple colors were adding their beauty. The bright, cheery colors of rose moss contributed to the fanfare.

I wouldn't exchange my eyes for a million dollars. My ears are worth another million to me. To miss the sight of these beauties of nature and to not hear the sounds of the birds or the chatter of a child would not be worth all that money.

To be able to walk and to have the privilege of using my hands in work are worth a couple more million dollars to me. Why do we ever think we're poor when we have good health, food to eat, clothes to wear, and a house to live in?

Out in the garden the marigolds were displaying their bright pom-poms of yellow and orange. Bushy four o'clocks proclaimed yellow, red, and white flowers. A stately row of gladiolas looked majestic with some scarlet red, some violet, some yellow. As was part of a song we sang in school, "Yes, God made them all."

I dug up beets and carrots, picked green beans, pinto beans, and sugar snap peas and cut a head of cabbage. I marveled at the uniqueness of each vegetable. How creative our God is to give us all this lovely vegetation.

As I sat on the porch cleaning beans I noticed butterflies flying aimlessly along in their erratic way. Two blue jays flew to the tree just several yards from me. What lovely birds!

I went to check the raspberries. What a picture in themselves — clusters of red, green, and black berries in amongst the green leaves. A nest had fallen out of a tree and was lying in a raspberry bush. So many interesting things in nature!

The day continued to be busy as I froze foods, canned foods, and took care of my family. But now as the sunlight is fading and night is closing in my heart overflows with happiness.

We're by no means rich in earthly goods but who cares? God has given us all these blessings with "ten thousands beside."

If Heaven were no better than a day like this, it would surely be worth striving for. Yet, God says in His Word, "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." I Cor. 2:9.

As an heir of God's riches, I am a millionaire.

Sister Sally Meyers  
Box 128 RR 1  
Minburn, Iowa 50167



The straight and narrow path gets you there the quickest, and the traveling is pleasanter because there is not so much traffic.

## OFF LIMITS

Many places of business advertise their informality with the inviting phrase "Come as you are." Others qualify that with "shirt and shoes required" for health and safety reasons. It is so easy to fit into the environment of various places, to be just one of the crowd, yet there are some places which are off-limits for any follower of Christ. Some activities should never be included in a Christian's life, no matter how inviting they are.

It is easy to think that if you don't get caught, it's okay. What people don't know won't hurt them! But it does hurt others who see you, one who claims to follow Christ, in a place where you don't belong. They know you, what you stand for and where you should or should not be. And it does hurt you also when you indulge in some foolish whim. Just because you escape being noticed by Christian people doesn't mean you can escape the consequences of your actions. What you do will have an effect sometime, somewhere.

You can spend your time sneaking around, hiding from those you know while you do as you please, but you're not fooling anyone but yourself. Wherever you spend your time, in off-limits activities or in something worthwhile, you will reap what you sow. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Galatians 6:7. This doesn't say maybe you'll reap it or possibly you will, but it's a firm statement of fact that you shall reap it. Sin carries a penalty and there will be no escape, no fooling God, while faithfulness to Him brings a reward.

A definition of recreation is refreshment of one's mind or body after labor, through diverting activity or play. We all need times of refreshment, with something different to do or to think on which gives our minds and bodies some rest. There are several kinds of recreation suitable for Christians to enjoy, others are not. How do we decide which is for us? God has given us all necessary principles in His Word so we can decide what is off-limits. There won't be any signs which say "Off-limits to Christians", but maybe there should be, so put up your own mental "off-limits" signs.

We all know sin is off-limits for followers of Christ and easily recognize the outstanding ones such as murder, stealing and so forth. But what about other sins? Sin can be direct disobedience of a specific command, anything which gets between us and God, and also things we do which cause others to sin. Any type of sin has an influence on others and this means many things are off-limits for their sake as well as our own. The bad influence of mis-

conduct especially on the unsaved cannot be ignored. That doesn't excuse the unsaved but part of the responsibility for their welfare is still ours. "For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself." Rom. 14:7.

Going places or doing things which are off-limits are a special problem for young adults. Having a higher energy level and a greater curiosity makes them easier prey for Satan's sneak attacks. Dad, Mom, are you aware of your children's special needs of guidance in their choices of recreation? Jeremiah 9:4 and II Chron. 22:3 give examples of wicked counsel; II Chron. 26:4 and II Tim. 1:5 are examples of wise and godly counsel. The counsel of parents is important and long-lasting, so begin your teaching before the need is there.

Many of you reading this would be surprised if you knew what your children have done and are now doing. Don't say it can't happen to us, that our children stay within their limits, because it already has happened to many. A doctor was speaking to a group of people concerning the present day drug problems. There were conservative people present and some expressed themselves that that was one problem which didn't affect them. Much to their surprise, this doctor informed them that he was treating some of their children for drug abuse.

Adopting the position of an ostrich with his head in the sand may give you a false security, but it will never make the problems go away. Such an attitude avoids facing reality and is definitely "off-limits" for parents, teachers or anyone else. Your children may not admit their needs, they may refuse your counsel as to what is off-limits, but you can still love and pray for them. If you will face the issue, you can expect help, both from God and concerned people:

Whether you are young, old or somewhere in between, recognize those areas which are off-limits. This can be in recreation, your thought-life and actions, the food and beverages you consume. Stick to that which is worthwhile and will not draw you away from God. Keep your life in accord with your testimony by doing whatever you do for the Lord, not just merely to entertain yourself. Anything which you don't do, let that be for conscience sake before the Lord also, not just to avoid criticism. You will reap what you sow — so may someone else — so choose wisely. Don't do it if it says "off-limits."

Sister Eileen Broadwater

**1981 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES**

Continued from August 1, 1981 Issue

**SATURDAY EVENING**

Moderator: Elder Dale Jamison.

Chorister: Bro. Tom St. John.

Opening: Elder Eugene Kauffman. Phil. 3:1-14.

When we think of the obstacles of life we find they are needful so we will rely on the strength of God. We need to be careful as a people confident of our persuasion that we do not trust too much in the flesh. What things of the past are we to forget? It is not our memories of good times, but of those things which have been a hindrance in our Spiritual walk. In this life we are jumping hurdles. We hope our children will be able to jump the hurdles of life. Are we teaching them that there are obstacles in life? When we feel too comfortable in life then what do we have to look forward to? Too often we look at the obstacles instead of jumping obstacles. There are many painful experiences in life almost too painful to bear. A traveler told of his journey among the fjords of Norway. It appeared the channel was growing narrower and the ship would soon be destructed by the mountains on each side. But just when all seemed lost, a secret channel appeared so the ship could sail out into the sea. Our life has many threatening situations but there is an escape available through God's provision. Each of us could find things in our past that if left to fester could impede our spiritual life. But we should like Paul head for the goal. Paul had the secret of the strength of Christ to overcome his problems.

Speaker: Elder Laverne Keeney. Have You Sounded, Lately? Rom. 10:15-21, Acts 27:28.

Acts 27 pictures the Church as a ship upon a troubled sea. There is a need to lighten the load by throwing off some things when we join the Church.

God has designed sound so He can communicate with us. He sends the message on the airways that we pick up. There are many kinds of sounds that are around us. Some are evil sounds. There are varying sounds in the religious world. I Cor. 14:7. There are so many sounds, so there must be a distinction between them if we are to know what each one is. The devil sends forth so many things that are very near the truth, things that look so good. We need the Word of God to be sure.

The world has been out of touch with God for so long that they seem to be waiting for something. So they follow eagerly after the various sounds of today's religious world. We need to be zealous for the Word of God. We need to contend for the faith and strive for the Spirit of God. Many go to Church and take the preacher's word

for it without checking the Word of God. I Thess. 1:18. Because the believers were doing so well, Paul did not need to say anything where their reputation had gone before.

Religion is cheap and the world knows it. We must present Christianity as valuable. The Devil has most of this world and he is working hard to get the rest of us. The Devil will steal our crown and our life. The Word of God must be used as the remedy.

Under the Mosaic Law, there were many sounds of trumpets blowing. It was necessary to warn a man who committed a sin in order to be free of his sin if he continued in it. If you did not warn him of his folly, his blood could be on your hands. We as Christians need to be concerned about pureness, power and sharpness of the Word of God. Modern Churches have taken the sword sharper than a two-edged sword and dulled it. We need to live up to the Word of God. Time is getting very short. All religions say that they are going to Heaven. But if they are given the "acid test" of feet washing, Lord's Supper, Holy Kiss — they say they are not necessary. Jesus says if "ye love me ye will keep my commandments."

If I make a substitute for the commands of God then I make a false sound. Public opinion is in the whole world. Men have their ideas of what is right, whether Biblical or not. Too many haven't made themselves available to God's Word, way or will so they follow after public opinion. After the President was shot, he expressed a desire that his assailant would recover from his condition. Many religious people want to hang people, put them before a firing squad, put them in jail for life or spread rumors about them. We can not depend on public opinion. We have the Word of God. We need to get lined up with God. God will not change His mind, we must change ours to conform to Him. We need to be on God's side when things are going well, then when things go bad He will be on our side.

The Apostles put out the sound. John the Baptist lost his head because he sounded forth about the sins of the king. The king's sin is still a sin today, have we sounded about it? Is there a help for the situation of today? There is still a Balm in Gilead. We need to be acquainted with the Word of God and sound it forth. We can either accept or reject it. We need to reject the sins that beset us. How many are in quicksand today because they have not put off the weight of sin. Acts 26:27. When Paul sounded, it was known. He sounded before King Agrippa. He sounded when the ship was being broken up, telling them to stay put. We can not get by without Old Ship Zion. There is no way to Heaven outside the Church.

We must establish ourselves on the Word of God. Then we can discern the various sounds that are in the world about us. The work does not go fast but block by block it is being done. When was the last time we sounded?

Are the things we're sounding, life giving or are they tearing down and hindering the work of God? We must be careful to not harm the Spiritual life of another. We should build up rather than tear down. The young people need to grow up in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

If at the time of birth there is no sound, the child is dead. If we have not sounded spiritually then we are also dead. We need to hear the Gospel sound. We talk about the temporal blessings of our lives but do we talk of our Spiritual blessings? We are embarrassed too often. We are like a turtle in its shell. The world tells us how religious they are but they don't want to talk about religion. They want to keep the Church from talking about sin. We must keep sin out of the camp. A preacher may be carnal minded enough to not speak about sin so the warning won't go out.

We need to sound especially as we continually draw nearer to the harbor of God. Those guiding the ship did not stop with one sounding but took more. Paul told his fellow travelers to abide in the ship then they could swim to shore or hold to pieces of the broken up ship. All were rescued. So we need to stay by the ship. It is our only hope. It will survive until the sound of the trumpet of God is heard. That sound will make all that we gave up here worthwhile. He has told us what He is coming for. He is coming for a Church without spot or wrinkle. We can not do so in our own strength but in His will and way we can. The conclusion of the whole matter is that we are to fear God and keep His commandments. Then we will hear that sound.

Closing: Elder James Kegerreis.

We have heard the joyful sound. Jesus Saves. When we look into the Word of God we find the sound.

To be continued.

## **WELL, AT LEAST I AM A CHRISTIAN**

Finishing up a hard day of work I made a comment to a fellow worker, that he was a "dipstick." His returning comment was, "Well, at least, I'm not a Christian." I did not say any more, for I was in shock.

Why would anyone not want to be a Christian? Do they not know of the rewards and peace of mind we as Christians have? As it says in Psalms 58:11, There is a reward for the righteous. We are not to worry of the things of this world. If we live a good Christian life we will receive an eternal home made of pearls and golden streets.

Sinners will only receive an eternal home in a lake of fire and torment. As it says in Romans 6:23, "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Lord."

God says he will give no peace to the wicked, Isaiah 48:22. The sinner's pathway is so crooked, that anyone who is to walk that way will not have peace within himself. But the Christian will be justified by faith, and have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, Romans 5:1.

A little sin will add to your trouble, subtract from your energy and multiply your difficulties. This sin comes from within the heart, Matthew 15:19. The sinner is always at the left hand side and must accept Christ as his Savior before he can go to the right side. He will then get his reward which is in Heaven, Matthew 5:12.

I am thankful that I have this reward coming to me and am already receiving peace from our Heavenly Father. Through our prayers and witnessings, sinners may be saved and we will receive a greater reward and peace of mind. We as Christians have the job of helping the unsaved understand God and receive Him into their hearts.

Sister Mabel L. Sweitzer

## THE BRIDE OF CHRIST

There is a new (at least to us) teaching being propagated that asserts that the Bride of Christ will consist only of PART of the true Church. The suggestion is made that the "overcomers" found in the Book of Revelation are a SPECIAL GROUP within the true Church who, supposedly, will be the Bride of Christ. We feel this teaching is contrary to Scripture, when taken in the whole, and can be used by Satan to divide the Church in more ways than one.

This teaching contends that the idea that the Church is the Bride of Christ can not be proven by Scripture. In Ephesians 5:25 we read, "Husbands love your wives (your brides), even as Christ also loved the Church, (His bride), and gave himself for it;" Then in verse 27 of this chapter we read, "That he might present it to himself (as His bride) a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." We confess that if this described our own righteousness we would not be qualified as being a part of the Bride of Christ. (And we seriously doubt if ANYONE else would qualify also.)

But, Praise God, the price has been paid. Acts 20:28 "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the CHURCH OF GOD, WHICH HE HATH PURCHASED WITH HIS OWN BLOOD." This, however, does not alleviate us from all responsibility. Colossians 1:22-23 "... to present you holy and unblameable and

unreproveable in his sight: IF YE CONTINUE IN THE FAITH..." All those who are redeemed by the blood of Christ and continue in the faith are overcomers. And ONLY those who are thus are overcomers!

This new teaching puts forth the idea that only a certain select group of the Church will be allowed to live in the New Jerusalem while the rest would be regarded as "second class citizens." We do believe that there will be rewards for obedience, although we confess ignorance as to the details concerning these rewards as we feel the scriptures are silent in this area. We, however, strongly oppose the idea that some will be "second class citizens" in the new world to come.

We feel this teaching has the potential to invoke the spirit of pride which is contrary to the spirit of Philippians 1:3, "Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves."

This teaching rightly describes the Christian experience as a three-fold walk. However, we believe it errs in its description of this walk. The three steps it promotes are: "salvation, baptism in the Holy Spirit, and overcomers." (The last as has been stated is reserved for a select group.) The scriptural three-fold walk is salvation through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, (initial salvation) sanctification, (progressive salvation), and glorification (final salvation). All three of these steps are experienced by all true Saints of God who make up the Church of Jesus Christ, His bride!

It is Satan's desire to bring confusion into the Church by giving "new revelations" to individuals. We are not suggesting that all of these individuals desire to cause splits and schism within the Church. Most of them probably feel they are truly being led by the Spirit of Christ. The problem is they have not truly tested the spirits although they may have prayed and studied for long periods of time on the subject. Once you have fallen into error, Satan will give you more "proof" as you seek to substantiate the error in your mind. He, of course, will not appear in his true form but will seem to be an angel of light! II Corinthians 11:14. While time is being wasted and possible harm is being done by propogating these "individual revelations", the true Gospel of Christ and the doctrines of the Church are being neglected.

Let us each study God's Word on a regular basis and seek to know His will for our lives. We would urge each of us to be very careful when accepting a "new teaching" that has been revealed to an individual. Christ usually works through THE CHURCH, not individual Christians, in regards to doctrine.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, Pa. 17078

## LOVE

Love can be described in many different ways and aspects. Webster's definition of love is: "to feel devotedly attached to or affectionate toward." The world knows this type of love as fleshly love which is shallow and easy to obtain. Christians know this love which is deep and comes from the heart, as is written in John 15:13, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friend."

John 15:9 speaks of spiritual love, "As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love." Jeremiah 31:3 speaks of Godly love, "The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with loving kindness have I drawn thee." Also, the well-known scripture, John 3:16 speaks of Godly love. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son; that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Proverbs 10:12 speaks of brotherly love which we should have for one another. "Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins," also Galatians 5:13, "For brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another."

There is also an "unselfish" love as written in Matthew 22:39, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Then there is love which is called "the proof of discipleship," John 13:35, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." Then in closing, we read of Christ's commandment in John 15:12, "This is my commandment that ye love one another, as I have loved you."

Brother Crist Bross  
Route 5, Box 29  
Myerstown, Pa. 17067

## OBITUARIES

### MERLE SWIHART

Bro. Merle W. Swihart was born September 7, 1915 and the Lord took him Home, May 26, 1981. He died as a result of internal injuries sustained in an automobile accident en route to work at Elkhart County Farm Bureau where he was employed part time at the feed mill.

He was married September 12, 1936 to Marjorie Dunithan. She survives with three children, Sis. Berton (Barbara) Smith of Emmatown, Indiana; Noble J. of Milford, Indiana; Thomas D. of Goshen, Indiana and a foster son Elias Castillo at home; thirteen

grandchildren; one great grandchild; five sisters, Mrs. Wilbur (Edith) Cripe of Hemet, California; Mrs. Owen (Esther) Heeter and Sis. Harry (Clara) Gunderman of Goshen, Indiana; Mrs. Merle (Ruby) Kendall of New Paris, Indiana and Mrs. Vail (Ruth) Hazen of Florida, and three brothers, Donald of Glendora, California; Bro. Floyd of Goshen, Indiana and Noble of Montrose, Colorado.

He took the Lord as his Saviour and joined the Goshen Dunkard Brethren Church in 1950, where he served as church chorister for many years. He was ordained to the ministry November 4, 1977 and to the eldership on April 26, 1981.

Funeral services were held at the Yoder-Culp Funeral Home, Goshen, Indiana on Friday, May 29 with Elder Edward Johnson and Elder Harley Flory officiating.

The closing thought of a sermon Bro. Merle was preparing was "The evidence of belief will be a life of obedience and we will know for the spirit of God will reveal it to us and others. May we be found in Him without spot or wrinkle."

A precious one from us has gone,  
A voice we loved is stilled,  
A place left vacant in our hearts,  
That never can be filled.  
Not dead to us who know him,  
Not lost but gone before;  
He lives with us in memory,  
And will for evermore.

We wish to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, memorials, gifts, and words of caring. Each expression made more real for us Christ's love and was a great source of strength and comfort at this difficult time.

The family

#### GLENNA GRAFT

Sis. Glenna Graft, daughter of David and Mary Ann Graft, was born on August 30, 1892, in Miami County, Indiana.

She accepted the Lord early in life, and was a charter member of the Midway Congregation near Peru, Indiana until it was disorganized in 1979. Later she placed her membership in the Plevna, Indiana Congregation.

She was always dedicated to the Church and its beliefs and was a true and faithful member. She was always available to help anyone in need.

She had been in failing health for about a year. She entered the Lutheran Hospital in Ft. Wayne, Indiana on June 2 and passed to her eternal reward on June 26, 1981.

She is survived by many nieces and nephews and a host of friends.

She will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved her. The Church here feels our loss, as she was just a wonderful person.

Funeral services were conducted from the Plevna Church on June 28, 1981 by Elder Harley Rush assisted by Bro. Robert Carpenter.

Interment was at the Metzger Cemetery near Nead, Indiana.

## **MARRIAGE**

### **CARLIN-LORENZ**

Sister LaDonna Carlin, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Donald Carlin, Ney, Ohio and Bro. Marvin Lorenz, son of Bro. and Sis. Kenneth Lorenz, Greentown, Indiana were united in marriage July 11, 1981 at the Pleasant Ridge Dunkard Brethren Church. Bro. Dennis St. John performed the marriage ceremony. The couple are at home at Greentown Mobile Estates, Lot 10, Greentown, Indiana.

## **NEWS ITEMS**

### **DALLAS CENTER, IOWA**

The Dallas Center Dunkard Brethren Church plans to hold a revival from August 9 through 23, 1981. Brother Dennis St. John from the Pleasant Ridge, Ohio Congregation will be with us for the meetings.

Communion service will be August 22 and 23. Come join us for any of these services. If you cannot come, pray that God's Spirit will have His way in all our hearts and lives.

Sister Mary Ellen Chupp, Cor.

### **HART, MICHIGAN**

The members at Hart, Michigan are planning, the Lord willing, to hold a one week revival meeting August 23, 1981 through August 30. The evangelist will be Elder James Kegerreis, of Richland, Pennsylvania.

There will be all day services on August 29 and 30. The Lovefeast will be held Saturday evening. Do come and enjoy these meetings with us.

Sister Marie Noecker

### **WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA**

The Lord willing, the Waynesboro Congregation plans to hold revival meetings Sunday, September 6 through Sunday, September 13. The Lord willing, Bro. Dean St. John will be with us for these meetings. We invite all to come and worship with us.

Sister Wilma Eberly, Cor.

## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1981

### DELIGHTS

Memory Verse: Num. 14:8

If the Lord delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land that floweth with milk and honey.

Tues. 1 - Num. 14:1-24

Wed. 2 - Deut. 10:1-22

Thur. 3 - I Sam. 15:1-23

Fri. 4 - I Sam. 18:1-30

Sat. 5 - I Sam. 19:1-24

Memory Verse: I Sam. 15:22

And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

Sun. 6 - II Sam. 1:1-27

Mon. 7 - II Sam. 15:1-29

Tues. 8 - II Sam. 22:1-25

Wed. 9 - II Sam. 22:26-51

Thur. 10 - II Sam. 24:1-25

Fri. 11 - I Kings 10:1-29

Sat. 12 - Neh. 9:1-19

Memory Verse: Psa. 37:4

Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

Sun. 13 - Neh. 9:20-38

Mon. 14 - Job 22:1-30

Tues. 15 - Job 27:1-23

Wed. 16 - Job 34:1-37

Thur. 17 - Psa. 1:1-6

Fri. 18 - Psa. 16:1-11

Sat. 19 - Psa. 22:1-31

Memory Verse: Psa. 40:8

I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart.

Sun. 20 - Psa. 37:1-20

Mon. 21 - Psa. 37:21-40

Tues. 22 - Psa. 40:1-17

Wed. 23 - Psa. 51:1-19

Thur. 24 - Psa. 62:1-12

Fri. 25 - Psa. 68:1-18

Sat. 26 - Psa. 68:19-35

Memory Verse: Psa. 112:1

Praise ye the Lord. Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord, that delighteth greatly in his commandments.

Sun. 27 - Psa. 94:1-23

Mon. 28 - Psa. 109:1-31

Tues. 29 - Psa. 112:1-10

Wed. 30 - Psa. 119:1-24

Memory Verse: Psa. 119:16

I will delight myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word.

Psa. 119:24

Thy testimonies also are my delight and my counsellors.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

SEPTEMBER 1, 1981

NO. 17

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## JESUS CALLS US

Jesus calls us o'er the tumult  
Of our life's wild restless sea,  
Day by day His sweet voice soundeth,  
Saying, "Christian, follow Me."

Jesus calls us from the worship  
Of the vain world's golden store;  
From each idol that would keep us,  
Saying, "Christian, love Me more."

In our joys and in our sorrows,  
Days of toil and hours of ease;  
Still He calls, in cares and pleasures,  
"Christian, love Me more than these."

Jesus calls us: by Thy mercies,  
Savior, make us hear Thy call,  
Give our hearts to Thine obedience,  
Serve and love Thee best of all.

— Cecil F. Alexander

## E PLURIBUS UNUM

The motto of the United States is a Latin phrase which can be translated, "From Many, One." This speaks of the unity of our country, despite the varied interests of the fifty states, the geographical regions and the languages and cultures represented by American citizens. Although these are diverse units, they are blended together into one nation and people. The United States is a "melting pot" of diverse nationalities, cultures and languages.

Our nation is not the only union formed from diversity. There are many other illustrations in our natural experiences that teach us of many being blended into one. A house or any other structure is a blend of many different parts. The foundation, the walls, the floors, the roof each have their part in making a complete building. A foundation without a building built upon it will soon deteriorate and crumble. Framework erected without a foundation will not survive the winds and storms that will come. The smaller parts of the building are important. All the parts, large or small, are necessary to have a secure, useful building.

In cooking or baking it is necessary for all the ingredients to be blended together in right proportions. If a certain dish is being made, the cook knows there are certain ingredients that will be needed and that they have to be combined in a certain way. If the directions are not followed, the ingredients may be wasted or if the wrong ones are used the resulting combination may be lethal. Each ingredient has its part in the final result. Even though there may be some substitution possible or some are optional yet each plays a distinct part in the food we eat.

The human body is probably the greatest example of many parts

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### THE BIBLE MONITOR

### SEPTEMBER 1, 1981

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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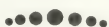
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being united to form one body. The very intricacy and interdependence of the various organs and systems of the body indicate that man was created by God, not by chance. Each organ, however great or small, is needed for the perfect functioning of that body. Although dead and malfunctioning organs have to be removed from time to time, there are usually limitations that result. There is some change in the body's function, even if it is minor. A pain or malfunction in one part of the body will affect the entire body.

Just as a house is one of man's greatest accomplishments, so the human body is God's greatest creation. It is therefore very appropriate to compare this natural creation with God's spiritual creation, the Church, the body of Christ. Paul makes this comparison in I Cor. 12, when he speaks of the various talents or gifts that are possessed by the members of the Church. Each member is as important to the Church as each organ is to the natural body. No one, however talented, possesses all the talents needed in the work of the Church. Neither is there a member, however untalented, but what has a talent that is needed by the Church. Those who preach, teach, wait on tables or lead singing may be more visible but the members who have more obscure talents are just as necessary. There would be no point in having a chorister if there were no joyful noise makers to follow. There would be no need for officials if there were no followers. These talents are needed in the Church along with those who have a talent for keeping the Churchhouse clean and in repair, for greeting people, for providing needed relief, for counseling people or for working with children. All of these and many other talents are needed for the Church to function properly. The ministers can not do it all. If there is no use made of the congregation's talents, the best administrative, doctrinal, or educational skills will be inadequate. If the members in the pews are not motivated to use their talent then there is a malfunction within the body. Its primary function must be the presentation of the saving Gospel of Christ. That Gospel is preached not only from the pulpit but from the life of each member.

All talents of use to the Church must be those in line with the New Testament teaching of righteous living. Submissiveness and orderliness are talents that need to be exercised often in the Lord's Work.

Do you have a talent? Are you using it to God's honor? Your talent is needed. Use it.



The lad who gave his loaves and fishes didn't have to go without his dinner.

## A WAY OF ESCAPE

In the first two chapters of the book of Genesis we read that God created a beautiful garden. In that garden He placed the first two human beings. We see Adam and Eve in a place of paradise. God had created them perfect — in His own image.

Not only were they created perfect but God gave them a perfect dwelling place. As we read of their beautiful situation we must conclude that they had all their needs supplied. Surely they had reason to be content to have such an abode!

The Bible contains many, many chapters and how sad it is that this beautiful story of contentment lasts for only the first two chapters! When Adam and Eve sinned they were driven from the garden. They no longer lived in an environment where all their needs were supplied. Man now was physically very needy and spiritually dead.

Many years have passed since the fall of man in the garden but we are just as needy today as Adam was then.

Man is a creature with many needs. As we live from day to day we sometimes face problems that we cannot handle alone. There are many ways to turn for help but lots of directions we turn will bring only temporary results. The wise man, Solomon, tried many methods to fill the emptiness in his life. After he had tried learning, riches, pleasure, and women he concluded that all is vanity. It was only when Solomon turned to God that he found peace.

God created man with a soul. The soul of man will never rest until it rests in God. He can give us that rest and satisfy our needs. God supplies our physical needs by bestowing blessings upon us that we call the comforts of life. Spiritually, God provides through His Spirit and His Word, the Bible.

The Bible is a book for every need. It is full of promises of how God will supply our needs. My Bible lists over fifty different categories of promises. Yes, one for EVERY need! Yet, a promise is only good if we meet the conditions of the promise.

The Bible is a book we must take by faith. Without faith it becomes only meaningless words while with faith it is the power of God unto salvation.

As we consider the promises of God, let us think of them as bridges over the troubles of life. A bridge is a structure built over a depression or obstacle which provides a passageway. The promises of God are like that. They provide a passageway over the valleys and stumbling blocks of life.

In I Cor. 10:13 we are comforted with these words, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is

faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." God has promised us that no matter how deep and dark the valley may be that we face, He has provided a bridge.

If there is a bridge provided for every need, why do we find ourselves bogged down in the deep mire of trial? Too often our eyes are on the raging river rather than the strong, sure bridge God has provided. We wouldn't think of plunging into a raging river when a good strong bridge was there to use! Yet so often we walk the dark, lonely valleys of trial alone when Jesus is there calling. "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." Matt. 11:28.

Too often we are like the old man who was on his way to market with a heavy sack of potatoes slung over his shoulder. He was offered a ride by a man with a horse drawn wagon. The old man accepted the offer but still kept the sack slung over his shoulder. When asked why he didn't set it down and rest he replied, "It's so kind of you to give me a ride but it's just too much to ask the horse to pull me and the potatoes." Yes, how often we ask the Lord to help us and yet we keep dragging our sack of troubles with us.

Man has many chasms in life to cross but none so great as the gulf of sin. When Adam was in the garden he had peace and communion with God as he walked and talked with Him. But when he sinned he was driven from the garden and separated from God. Isaiah 59:2 tells us that sin separates. "But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear."

Oh, how great was the gulf that Adam found between God and him! How could man ever cross that great gulf of sin? Man was hopelessly lost and only God, with His love, could span that gap. In the very same chapter that the fall of man is recorded, God promises a way of escape!

Again, the bridge is of value only if we take it by faith. When we find ourselves on an island in the midst of the raging sea of life and look across the ocean of sin that is between us and God, we have a decision to make. As we consider our lost condition and see the bridge God has provided, it is still no good to us unless we trust Him. Unless we take that step of faith and cross the bridge provided by God's love, we will perish in the sea of sin.

After we cross that first great gulf and enter the land of new life, we will still have need for many more bridges. Isn't it a comfort to know that now we can face each river with the "Bridge Builder" by our side? David said, "Yea though I walk through the valley of

the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." Ps. 23:4.

We need to lean on the Lord and trust Him for all our needs remembering that "the Lord is not slack concerning His promise." II Peter 3:9.

Yes, for every need there is a way of escape provided. It is up to us to take the bridge that God has provided. Remember many of the dark valleys we find ourselves in, are because we failed to take the bridge.

Brother Jim Meyers

## **MORE THAN A FIRE ESCAPE**

"For Emergency Use Only" is a sign often seen on emergency exits, fire escapes and so forth. Such exits provide a route to safety when all other avenues are cut off. A fire escape doesn't receive much attention until it is needed even though it's always there and ready for use. In an emergency, people are forced to use it if they want to survive. Many use God just this way, thinking of Him as a fire escape, a way to get out of a tight spot, then to be forgotten again. They assume God will wait around until they need Him and that He won't mind being ignored the rest of the time.

God is much more than just a route to safety after everything else has been tried first. He does not belong in the category of a fire escape or emergency exit, something to use only at certain times. God certainly will help us during emergencies in our lives, but He wants us to walk with Him each day. When we have accepted Christ and walk with God, we have the assurance that our pleas will be heard, whatever our need. Those without Christ have no such assurance. God in His mercy may help an unbeliever in an emergency, but the promise of His care is for believers.

During a hurricane, a woman prayed earnestly for God's help, even though she ordinarily had little regard for Him. Apparently she felt her plea was ignored and when she saw a pastor she knew, she demanded to know where God was when she needed Him. The pastor knew her spiritual condition and replied, "I suppose He was busy taking care of His regular customers." This woman thought of God as a fire escape, just someone to get her out of trouble. Then she couldn't understand why He didn't respond to her demands!

We don't begin our relationship with God by demanding His care. The sin problem — our sin — must be taken care of first. John 3:16 tells us the place to start. We must seek Jesus first and believe in Him for our salvation. "It is of the Lord's mercies that

we are not consumed" (Lam. 3:22a); God doesn't owe us anything. Jesus said, "But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in Heaven." Matt. 10:33. This woman was denied her need of Christ, therefore she had no access to the throne of Grace. God's care is promised to His own, not those who ignore Him.

After our sins are forgiven, the next step is service. "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Rom. 12:1. How dare we think of God as a "fire escape" when we owe Him everything? Since being a living sacrifice is only reasonable service, think how unreasonable it is not to serve Him and yet expect His care. It was most unreasonable for this woman to expect God to help her when she had not sought salvation nor served Him in any way.

"When thou passeth through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee." Isa. 43:2. This promise assures us of God's care in every situation if we have been redeemed. If we are still doing as we please, we can't expect anything from God's hand. We need God, He does not need us, and we have no right to expect God's help unless we put Him first in our lives.

"God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble." James 4:6b. This woman was too proud to seek God until faced with an emergency. She was also too proud to admit she didn't deserve any help. To her, God was just a fire escape, someone to call on when she felt like it. She didn't recognize that God's care is for His own, those who are trusting in Christ and serving Him. If you have been too proud to seek God, now is the time to set your pride aside and seek His will for your life. Putting it off may mean your plea will be ignored as hers was.

"He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still." Psal. 107:29. The Lord's care is not just for times of danger as in nature's storms. If this woman had walked with the Lord, she would have known He first comes to calm the storm in our souls, to give us peace in Christ. Whether the storms are natural or spiritual, we have peace when we trust in the Lord.

"Thou wilt keep Him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." Isa. 26:3. Trusting means continual contact with God and having our minds fixed on Him, not a hit-and-miss relationship. This woman demanded help when she was in trouble, but she was not in fellowship with God and peace was not hers. She apparently thought she could take care of

herself, that is, until the storm came. She hadn't learned what Jesus meant when He said, "Without me ye can do nothing." (John 15:5)

Trusting in the Lord for our strength is to be done daily, not just once in awhile. God is not just a fire escape and doesn't want to be thought of as one. He wants you to come to Him because you want to, not because you are forced to. There is much more available to us than just emergency provisions. Through Christ, God's Son, salvation has been provided. He is our door to the fold of God's love and mercy. Through Him we are blessed and cared for daily. To be continually assured of God's care, establish your relationship with God now before any crisis comes. Remember, God is like a main entrance, to be used daily; He's not a fire escape.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## A NEW CREATURE

"(Ye) have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him; where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision, barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free; but Christ is all, and in all. Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, humbleness of mind, meekness, long suffering." Col. 3:10-12.

At first, we must realize that he is talking to a people who have put on the new man, Christ Jesus. We have a different aim in this life, as a new creature, old things have passed away and our thoughts, our words, our actions, our striving will be for a different purpose. We have been renewed in knowledge, enlightened above the beggarly elements of the world.

We no longer strive to fit into the general arrangement of conditions that surround us, for we are free from the yoke of sin. "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God... not seeking mine own profit but the profit of many, that they may be saved." I Cor. 10:32-33. Our aim is to worship, praise, and please our Heavenly Father and to strive for the salvation of the souls of our fellowmen.

"Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus." Phil. 2:4-5. This was the aim of our Saviour not to be concerned for His own welfare but for the welfare of everybody. Referring to our text in the beginning, there is neither Greek nor Jew, the two classes in which the Jews considered all nationalities. Christ was confronted with this problem when He was here on earth: there were Jews, Gentiles, Scribes, Pharisees, Publicans,

sinner, Samaritan, Priest and Levite. Christ associated with, taught, healed and even ate with any of them, as the opportunity afforded, always trying to teach the will of God regardless of who was listening; however He was careful never to be contaminated with their sins and misunderstandings.

How about us today, who are trying to be followers of Christ? We find men who despise and speak evil of other races, nations and creeds, regardless of their own individual weakness or mistake, just because they are part of a group different from us. I wonder if Christ would not declare a woe unto those having this spirit as being sensual and devilish. "Let no man seek his own, but every man another's wealth." I Cor. 10:24. "Charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up... seeketh not her own." I Cor. 13:4-5.

Are we showing any better spirit than the heathen by taking advantage of the weak, the conquered, the ignorant and the underprivileged? Are we teaching them the Gospel and the Spirit of Christ? Or are we striving for territorial, material or political advantages?

"Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; not with eye-service, as men-pleasers; but as the servants of Christ doing the will of God from the heart; with good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men: knowing that whatsoever good thing any many doeth, the same shall be received of the Lord, whether he be bond or free." Eph. 6:5-8. In our nation and our own community we find men joining unions and organizations, that with force they may take advantage and get what they want. They say, "to protect their own rights." Is either of these purposes following the Scripture we just quoted?

If our labors are for any other purpose than a pure heart as unto the Lord and not unto men, can we expect a blessing from the Lord? I fear that even in the Church sometimes we serve as men-pleasers, with eye-service, and actually "do as others do." God has blessed us with religious freedom, health, minds to learn what His Word teaches and countless other things we might enumerate. With what motive and how great a zeal and effort are we worshipping and trying to please our Lord? How strong a light am I to my fellowman?

Brother Howard J. Surbey  
Littlestown, Pennsylvania 17340



Jesus was deeply concerned over three classes of people -- the least, the lost, and the last.

## 1981 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Continued from August 15, 1981 Issue

### SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Moderator: Elder Dale Jamison.

Chorister: Bro. Floyd Haldeman.

Moderator's Comments: I am reminded this morning of a little story of a young convert. He was very zealous and had a desire to preach. He had a dream one evening in which he saw two letters in the sky. Those letters were P and C. So he went to the dear old Elder that day and he said, "I had a dream last night and the Lord told me to preach. I found the call to preach." This wise old Elder not wanting to discourage the zealous young man said, "I think you misinterpreted the dream. Those two letters were to plow corn." Now not all of you here today are going to preach. But the Bible does say that ye are living epistles known and read of all men. The kind that speaks of your heart. The love that is shown forth, the kind words that you might speak, the hospitality that you might give are your witnesses. And every one of you are going to preach. Your life is going to be a testimony today and every day of your life. I want my life to tell the truth.

Speaker: Elder Joseph Flora. Matthew 13.

We are thankful that we have the opportunity to worship Him together, to come to Conference to meet the Brethren and Sisters. This is one of the most wonderful times we'll have here on earth. His words are more important than mine as we read these words together let's think about the setting, let's think about the One who spoke, let's think about the importance of the message.

As we look at this little story, most of us at some time or another in our life have been a sower. We have seen the results of sowing. We sow with expectation, with hope. Jesus used the natural things which we are so familiar with. He had in mind the greater blessing — sowing Eternal things — seeds. Seeds are the source from whence all things come. There are many types of seeds. Some are very useful — very beneficial to man and some we would just as soon do without. But I'm sure Jesus was talking about good seeds when He spoke of this sower.

Most of us probably at some time have taken seed in our hand and thrown it out as they did in Jesus' time. But certainly we would not have as much control over it as we would with modern day equipment. That is somewhat like it is with the seed which Jesus wants you and me to sow from our lives, from our speaking, from our teaching, from our preaching. He wants us to sow good seed as well as sowing a great deal of seed. Seed is important, isn't

it? It is a gift of God. A large portion of people of this earth would perish if for some reason all the seed were to be taken away from us. People depend very largely upon the cereals to live by. And we too are told that we need to take this Word, for it is the Bread of Life, that we might live thereby. Jesus often spoke of the Bread of Life. He said I am the Bread of Life.

In Ecclesiastes the wise man said, "in the morning sow thy seed." That comes to everyone of us, that we ought to sow seed. We're all preaching, we're all teaching whether by precept or example.

I like to think just a moment about the sower. The sower is important. Jesus, the great example, went about doing good and healing all those who were oppressed by the devil. This we find in Peter's great sermon, when he went to Cornelius' house. He spoke of the good things Jesus did — how many they were. As we think about being a sower, it takes some effort, doesn't it? If we really want to do a good job of sowing we first must do a little preparation. We have to put forth effort in order to sow the Good Seed as well as the natural.

Then we think about the soil that Jesus spoke of. He spoke of different kinds of soil into which the seed might fall. And I don't find anywhere in the Word of God or in Jesus' example or teaching that we are at anytime to withhold the seed because some of it falls into bad ground. No, as we sow the seed we can't tell what the crop might be. All of us, who are associated with agriculture, realize not only is the ground important but that there is One who must bless the work. I have said, particularly this Spring, that by God's help if He gives me strength I can prepare the soil and plant the seed but I can't make it grow. It is only as God would water that seed that it can grow. We should invoke God's blessing upon the efforts we put forth. If we go in our own strength and in our own effort it is sure to fail. That great harvest perhaps cannot be determined until harvest time. I'm sure that many of us who have harvested crops have been both disappointed and pleasantly surprised with the harvest. Sometimes we think that it is really a little better than it actually is. Then again we may have underestimated. Perhaps this may be the case with many of us as we sow our seed today. We may have under-estimated the value of our sowing under God's blessing. If God blesses that work it could bring forth a harvest that is of tremendous value. "For He so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish..." Think about it as you sow your seed. There may be someone who would let God into his heart and it might bring forth that harvest. We think of this often as we deal with those who are quite young. Who can tell whether it

will bring forth a hundred fold or what? A hundred fold we believe would be a good harvest. That means that all would yield to the Lord. Certainly as we think about young lives it may take more than one sowing. It may take continual sowing that they might come forth to the harvest. Let us continue to sow that good seed.

As we have gathered here in this time of worship and praise to God the Word of God has been preached. We often associate it with the expectation that tomorrow we will reap. If we go away from this place without having seen the actual gathering in of a harvest, may we continue to go as the Apostle Paul. He said, "I have planted, Apollos watered." Let's continue to water that seed that it might bring forth fruit.

In this day as we listen to the Word, what kind of ground are we? Is your heart prepared? Are we preparing our hearts that that seed falling might not be covered to such a depth that it could not stand the time when the sun gets hot or will it be scorched as Jesus spoke in this parable that it might not bring forth any fruit? Did you ever stand behind a seeder? You can feel it hit you as our more modern equipment throws the seed sometimes with a lot of force. Maybe that is the way the Word of God is today. It touches our hearts. It may sting a little. Let it penetrate, that it might find lodging there to bring forth fruit to His honor and glory.

I don't find that Jesus indicated at all that the sower should look for glory. But it should be for God's glory. Keep that in mind as we sow. I'm fearful that many times we who sow the seed may be looking for more glory than what we would be willing for God to have.

To be continued.

## **THE CHILDREN'S PAGE**

### **THE RICH MAN AND THE POOR MAN**

Luke 16:19-31

Jesus always told the truth. One time He told about a very rich man and a very poor man. The rich man had the best clothes that money could buy. He was clothed in purple and fine linen. In that day purple cloth was the most expensive. Only the very rich could afford it. Kings wore purple robes. The rich man was also dressed in fine linen. Linen was also expensive — especially fine linen. It was of a higher quality than ordinary or coarse linen and only rich people could buy it. The common people wore clothing made of wool. Sheep were plentiful and wool cloth was woven on a loom in the home. The rich man also had a fine home and many servants. Rich men of that day always had plenty of servants to wait upon

them. Jesus said this man fared sumptuously every day. That means he had everything he could desire — more than enough.

There was also a man who was so poor that he had to beg for a living. He laid at the rich man's gate, hoping only for a little food that was given to the rich man's dogs — the crumbs that fell from the rich man's table. It was the custom for rich men to give the crusts of bread, with which they wiped their plates, to their hounds that waited around the table for a bite to eat. The rich man ignored the poor man whose name was Lazarus. The dogs came and licked the poor man's sores. They had more compassion than their master.

It would have been easy for the rich man to have helped Lazarus. He could have ordered one of his servants to give him food and clothing and take care of him, but he didn't. He just couldn't be bothered about a poor beggar.

One day the beggar died and the angels came and carried Lazarus to Abraham's bosom. This was a term used by the Jews to mean paradise. God sees the condition of all men and here was a man, though a beggar, who believed in God and trusted Him. God took care of Lazarus.

There came a time when the rich man also died and was buried. The rich man's soul didn't go where poor Lazarus went. He went to a place called, "Hell." In hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and afar off he saw Lazarus in Abraham's bosom. Although the rich man had died and his body was buried, he could talk and he cried and said, "Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am tormented in this flame."

But Abraham said, "Son, remember that in your lifetime you received good things and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed so that they which would pass from there to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from there."

There is a Heaven and there is a hell. I'm sure all of us want to go to Heaven. We don't have to go to hell, like that rich man who only thought of himself.

Jesus, telling about visiting the sick, feeding the hungry, giving to the poor and visiting those in prison said, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me." If we want to do something for Jesus we must have love and compassion to help those who are in need. Jesus told us about the rich man and the poor man so that we might know of conditions after death.

## BLACKEST MOMENT

Life brings heartaches into our lives and we think how horrible these black moments are when we are first told some terrible news or something terrible happens. Some of the following may have caused the blackest moment in your life:

A doctor kindly tells you, "We did all we could, but your baby died."

Your child tells you, "LaVerne is an atheist, but we are getting married anyway."

A specialist tells you, "Your husband has six months to live."

A child runs between parked cars following a ball and you hit him and he dies.

Your father says, "You cannot live in this house and be a Christian! Get out!"

Your companion says, "I have found another. I love you no more. We must get a divorce."

You watch in horror at an accident where several are trapped and they die while you can do nothing to assist.

Your longed-for-baby is born and you are told it is retarded.

Shortly before the planned wedding your beloved says, "I just can't go through with it."

After years of bad vision, you wake up and your vision is completely gone.

The doctor tells you, "You will never have children of your own."

A telephone call comes, "There has been a terrible accident. Please come to the hospital."

Your only child calls, "I have joined a band of people who have promised me happiness. You would call them a cult, but they are fabulous people. Do not try to find me. Good bye!"

Perhaps you have lived through some of these unhappy circumstances. I want to add another to the list that I feel would be the very **BLACKEST MOMENT** ever.

And the Lord said, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." Matt. 25:41.

At this moment don't think about John or Rose. Walk to the nearest mirror. Ask yourself, "Am I ready to die?" If the person in the mirror isn't ready to die, we'll hear those awful words of departure.

Let's all get right with God so we can hear the grand words, "Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Matt. 25:34.

Sister Mildred Skiles  
Torreon Navajo Mission

## NEWS ITEMS

### ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

The Lord willing, the Englewood Congregation will be holding a two week Revival meeting September 16 through 30. Bro. Kenneth Wolfe from Pine Grove, Pennsylvania will be with us.

Everyone is welcome to these meetings starting at 7:45 p.m. each week day and 9:30 a.m. on Sunday.

On September 16 we plan to have our Harvest Meeting Sermon. Bro. Edward Johnson has consented to bring forth the message in the afternoon.

Pray for these meetings that the Saints might be built up and the sinner might see the need of a Savior.

Sister Shirley Frick, Cor.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Bible Monitor has been continuously published since October, 1922. It was issued monthly and the subscription rate was 75¢ per year. In October 1923 the Bible Monitor began to be issued twice a month and the subscription rate was set at \$1.00 per year. It has remained at that rate despite the tremendous increase in the cost of paper, printing and postage since then. The Publication Board has attempted to underwrite the difference between the subscription price and the amount spent to publish the paper. This difference has become too large to be ignored. Therefore the price of one year's subscription will increase to \$2.00 a year beginning October 1, 1981. All new and renewal subscriptions postmarked before October 1 will be honored at the old rate.

Thank you for your continued interest, support and prayers.

### MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The new address of Bro. Leonard Wertz is: Torreon Navajo Mission, Box 188, Cuba, New Mexico 87013.



## YOUR OWN VERSION

You are writing a Gospel  
A chapter each day,  
By deeds that you do,  
By words that you say.

Men read what you write,  
Whether faithless or true;  
Say, what is the Gospel  
According to You?

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

SEPTEMBER 15, 1981

NO. 18

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

The Lord is my Shepherd, no want shall I know;  
I deed in green pastures, safefolded I rest;  
He leadeth my soul where the still waters flow,  
Restores me when wand'ring, redeems when oppressed.

Thro' the valley and shadow of death, tho' I stray,  
Since Thou art my Guardian, no evil I fear;  
Thy rod shall defend me, Thy staff be my stay;  
No harm can befall with my Comforter near.

In the midst of affliction my table is spread;  
With blessings unmeasured my cup runneth o'er;  
With perfume and oil Thou anointest my head;  
O what shall I ask of Thy providence more?

Let goodness and mercy, my bountiful God,  
Still follow my steps till I meet Thee above;  
I seek by the path which my forefathers trod,  
Thro' the land of their sojourn, Thy kingdom of love.

— James Montgomery

## THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

The 23rd Psalm has probably been memorized by more people than any other scripture. Both young and old have learned it. This Psalm is soothing and uplifting and speaks to the need of each heart. Due to the trouble and turmoil of this life each of us needs a shepherd over our lives. We should be thankful that we have a Good Shepherd.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He is not a hireling nor a shepherd, slothful in His duties. He has a great responsibility in caring for His sheep. Without Him the sheep would be in a precarious position. With Him, they are not only protected but they can be a blessing themselves.

The shepherd, as spoken of by David and Jesus, cared for the sheep in a way foreign to the modern way. Today, sheep are driven from place to place, often with the help of dogs. The shepherds of Bible times led their sheep. When the porter opened the door of the sheepfold, the sheep would follow their shepherd by the sound of his voice. The shepherd knew his sheep individually and the sheep recognized their shepherd.

To understand the importance of the shepherd, we must realize the need of the sheep. Sheep have characteristics that demand the shepherd's care. Sheep are followers. They will follow their shepherd. But this same characteristic also causes grief for they will also follow a false leader. If one sheep finds a hole in the fence, soon all will be out. If one strays soon there will be other strays. This is true of sheep and of people. So often the only justification that we have for what we have done amiss is that we are doing what another has done before.

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### THE BIBLE MONITOR

### SEPTEMBER 15, 1981

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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Sheep are nearly defenseless. They have little possibility of overcoming an attacker. They often give up before their attacker. They need a shepherd to ward off these enemies. The dogs and wolves especially attack the sheep which have strayed from the flock, for they are taken so easily. The shepherd must keep the sheep in one group, so the wolves will not be given their prey so easily. Outside of fleeing, the sheep has no defense. Even then the sheep can not flee fast enough or far enough to ensure its safety. If there were no shepherd, there would be no protection at all. David as a shepherd protected his father's sheep from the lion and the bear. He did not flee when danger came but stayed by the defenseless sheep. Although men speak of their physical prowess and of their strength of military arms, still they are just about as defenseless as sheep. Without a shepherd, man becomes easy prey for the enemy of his soul.

Knowing the characteristics of the sheep, we know there is a shepherd needed. We recognize our need of the Good Shepherd. He anticipates our needs so we shall not be in need. He provides not only the natural needs of this life. Directly or indirectly, He provides our daily bread just as the shepherd finds the lush green pastures, the still, drinkable waters and the places of rest for the sheep. He also provides the spiritual resources needed in the dark and lonesome valleys of this life. He is near by when death comes close to us either in our body's own afflictions or as it touches our loved ones. That valley is never easy to walk but with the Good Shepherd, there is one to lean upon. His rod and staff, the shepherd's tools, are for our safety and protection. Where else can we find one who will care for us with protection and the provisions of life plus giving us the extra blessings of the anointing oil and the overflowing cup? Where else would we want to be, other than in His house or in His presence forever? When we consider the benefits of being a sheep under His care, we know that we are well cared for.

His care for us sometimes is extended to us in indirect ways. His provisions for our natural needs often are contingent upon our own willingness to labor. The relief work of the Church may provide for needs beyond what we can provide for ourselves. His provisions for our spiritual welfare are provided by the under shepherds He has appointed in the Church. These shepherds are to have the interests of their congregation close to their heart like the shepherd's care for his sheep. They oversee the progress of each sheep and try to provide the encouragement or correction that is needed by each and by the congregation as a whole. The sheep should give the same heed to these undershepherds as they would the Good Shepherd. Each sheep should want to be in that place where he has no spiritual need.

The sheep of the Lord's pasture have a Good Shepherd. He attends to their physical, material and Spiritual needs. While God in His mercy does provide for all of His creatures, it is for His sheep that He provides the Shepherd's earnest, protective care. Are you His sheep? Do you realize the Good Shepherd's care for you?

## CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

In the little book of Jude, the third verse, we read, "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." We believe that a careful study of the scriptures will reveal the fact that "the saints" and "the Church" are synonymous terms.

Our contending for the faith has both a positive and a negative connotation. We are to contend FOR those things which are revealed as truth in scripture. We are to OPPOSE those teachings which are contrary to scripture. The scriptures speak of three different types we are to oppose. These are the false prophets, the false teachers, and the false teachings. We believe that the false prophets refer to the cults and the false religions of the world. Although these are to be opposed and exposed, we do not feel they are a primary threat to the Church. The false teachers, we see as individuals WITHIN THE CHURCH who deny cardinal doctrines of scripture. (We speak of the earthly church at this point not the blood bought Church of Christ.) The false teachings we feel are the most subtle and the most dangerous of the three. These teachings we feel are propagated by those who truly know Christ yet have been deceived in certain areas of truth. To those Brothers and Sisters who do not believe this is possible, we humbly admit our human fallibility and the possibility that we may be wrong.

One aspect of the faith that is being attacked in various ways is the teaching of the Trinity. The cults deny this teaching outright and speak against it. The false teachers deny it in more subtle ways. Some deny the virgin birth, thus the deity of Christ, and ultimately the Trinity. Others accept the Father and the Son but would make the Holy Spirit a force rather than a person. Some teach the "Jesus only" doctrine and baptize "in the name of Jesus" rather than in the name of the Trinity as Jesus taught. When the Bible speaks of being baptized in the name of Jesus Christ (as in Acts 2:38) it IS NOT giving a baptismal formula but

it is speaking of the AUTHORITY of Jesus Christ who taught trine immersion in the name of the Father, AND of the Son, AND of the Holy Ghost. Matt. 28:19. These "Jesus only" teachers are in fact denying the Trinity. On the positive side of this discussion, the Trinity IS NOT only a New Testament concept as many have been led to believe. The most frequent word for "God" used in the Old Testament is the word "Elohim" which is PLURAL in form but is used with a SINGULAR verb or adjective!

Another aspect of the faith which is "under fire" is the meaning of salvation. The false prophets would have you work for your salvation. The false teachers would have you "believe" on Jesus Christ (head knowledge) but deny the need of acknowledging the shed blood on Calvary's cross through which we have our salvation. Then there are the more subtle teachings of eternal security and salvation without baptism. We would not say it is impossible for a person to be saved without baptism but we find no scriptural basis for denying the need of baptism. The fact remains NO ONE in scripture, after the death of Christ, was saved that was not baptized! (Those who were not immersed but recognize another type of "baptism" we leave in the hands of a just God.)

We feel that the most dangerous area for the blood bought Church is the area of false teachings. We recently heard a popular preacher say, (perhaps with "tongue in cheek") "Any individual who does not register and vote is a back slidden Christian." THIS IS FALSE TEACHING! Another popular evangelist was heard to ridicule trine immersion baptism. THIS IS FALSE TEACHING! When popular preachers speak against nonresistance or for war, against the prayer veil, plain dress, or refusal to swear an oath, THEY ARE SUBJECTING THEMSELVES TO FALSE TEACHING!

Let us desire to follow NO MAN (Whether it be Alexander Mack, Luther, Calvin, or a modern day "big name" preacher) but only the Lord Jesus Christ. Every book of the Bible is about Him and His teachings, for the CHURCH can be found in every book of the New Testament.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, Pa. 17078



## DROWNING THE VOICE

In the days of martyrdom the persecutors of the day engaged drummers to beat their drums in order to drown the voice of the martyrs, lest the testimony of truth from their lips should reach the ears of the people. So do men deal with their own conscience, and seek to silence the truth-telling voice of the Holy Spirit.

## ORGANIZE YOUR PRIORITIES

Strange title? Perhaps, but even more strange are the measurements of value people use in setting priorities. If they like something, they put that first, whether it makes sense or not. God's will in a given matter is often considered last, if at all. Circumstances are dealt with on the basis of what hurts least now, not on which is the wisest move. Personal affairs are placed ahead of God's work and that which is eternal. Somewhere along the line, priorities must be set. The choices you make determine the course of your life here and where you will spend eternity, so they must not be taken lightly.

A priority is that which comes before something else. It doesn't exclude other things, but means you have placed certain matters in a place of greater importance, and they will receive your attention first. To organize is to arrange systematically, to get into proper working order. In setting priorities, you must choose correctly or life will never really work for you. Unwise choices mean friction and always being out of step. Short-term goals may be reached satisfactorily, only to realize later on that you missed out in the really important matters.

How then do we decide what should come first? Then second, and third? There are many areas of life to consider, so we need to know where to begin. First, is your own soul's need. Until you have received Christ as your Savior and Lord and given Him His rightful place in your life, you are not ready to set any other priorities. A life without Christ is out of harmony with God, and such a life will never harmonize with anything else no matter how well-organized and right your other priorities are.

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33. We are commanded to seek God and His righteousness first, so our spiritual needs must take priority over all else. Once that order is established, then God will add other things, but He doesn't give the other things first. When our values are centered on the most valuable — which is Christ — then we have something genuine to measure our other choices by.

There must be priorities in marriage, in your education and career, family and social life. Your spiritual priorities will determine what these other priorities are. Once you've set these priorities, you must then arrange the entire group in proper working order. If you choose one thing, you may have to do without something else. For example, if you choose marriage, you are no longer free. If you want an education, marriage probably

should wait. Full-time Christian service may mean thoughts of a career must be set aside. Various choices must be made and we need the Lord's wisdom to make the right ones.

"God first, others second, myself last" is good to remember as a guideline. Once a commitment to God is made, that qualifies and limits our commitment to others. It means the time we can have for our personal affairs is limited, while at the same time our responsibilities has increased. Our priorities determine which matters come first, but it is still important that we do our best in all areas of life. I Cor. 4:2 says "Moreover it is required in stewards that a man be found faithful." When you've made a commitment, keep it wholeheartedly.

We understand that our spiritual needs must come first, so let's consider some personal spiritual priorities. We ought to help others when possible, but we also need a personal quiet time with the Lord. We need to pray and also need to know what should come first in prayer. Our minds are drawn to people's physical needs, but they aren't the most important. Jesus first said to the man let down through the roof, "Man, thy sins be forgiven thee." (Luke 5:20) This man's soul needed healing and that came first with Jesus. For us, intercessory prayer for someone's salvation must come first, followed by prayer for other needs.

Ministers, teachers and parents must set priorities in how they teach God's Word. The apostles preached Christ and Him crucified, and so must we. After the need for Christ is recognized, then Christian responsibilities are to be taught. We cannot teach someone to serve the Lord until he or she has accepted Christ. We can and must teach our children Christian values, but they must also be taught that no amount of good, clean living can ever save them. It takes a personal commitment to Jesus Christ, "for there is none other name under Heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12.

"So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." Rom. 14:12. Whatever priorities you set, whatever you do with that which is entrusted to your care will someday be revealed. This includes your own soul, the souls of those around you and all related responsibilities. If you place anything or anyone ahead of God's will for your life, it will be known. Start while you are young in establishing priorities according to their true value. If you first give Jesus your heart, He will help you make wise choices if you ask Him to. Wise choices prevent much heartache, so organize your priorities and choose first that which is eternal.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

**ALL 15 TO 25 YEAR OLDS.  
MEMORIZE THESE SCRIPTURES!  
MEDITATE UPON THEM OFTEN!  
NOTE THEM IN SOME PLACE, THAT WILL BE  
EASILY ACCESSIBLE TO YOU!**

"Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment." Matt. 5:21. Must you pull the trigger to kill? Do you need to set off the bomb to kill? Who makes every detail of the machinery to kill?

"My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight." John 18:36. Whose kingdom do you wish to serve?

"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds). II Cor. 10:3-4. What kind of weapons do we use as we go about our walk of life?

"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you." Matt. 5:44. Do you realize that these are the words of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour?

"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." Rom. 12:2. Christ and the apostles gave us an example of this commandment, while living here on earth.

"We ought to obey God rather than men." Acts 5:29. "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever." I Pet. 1:23.

These are personal Scriptures for you.

Brother Howard J. Surbey  
749 W. King St.  
Littlestown, PA 17340

## 1981 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Continued from September 1, 1981 Issue

Sunday A.M.

Moderator: Elder Dale Jamison.

Chorister: Bro. Leonard Wertz.

Opening: Elder Howard Surbey. I Peter 4:1-11.

The best way to worship Him is to read His Word. Pay close

attention to the reading of this Word for it will do you much more good than anything I might give you.

It is a wonderful meditation for us to think of suffering for our Lord and Saviour. How far are we willing to go? We need to praise Him for the suffering He endured to forgive us our sins and to establish the plan of salvation. We should no longer live in the common lusts of mankind. We may have lived in them in the past but we should forget them and use our talents for living for Him.

We may not have walked in all of evil ways of mankind but we have walked in some of them. Men may think it strange that we no longer walk in their evil ways. They may think it so strange that they speak evil of us? Does it make us ashamed of Christ? Or are we glad that we have learned a better way and travel with Him.

If we feel our sufferings and trials are too heavy, we can look beyond this world to Him who will judge the quick and the dead. We may feel that we do not receive justice in this life. If we come short, we are the ones who will have to give an account. One of the reasons we gather in these services is that we might encourage and counsel one another so we are able to give that account. So we are able to please our Lord and Saviour. He expects it of us. We should consider it a privilege that we have learned how to give an account of how we suffered for Him. It is not a persecution but a privilege.

For this cause the Gospel is preached that they may live to please God. We have not always lived to please Him or worship Him. Therefore we should be sober and prayerful in our living. We should have a fervent love for each other and extend hospitality without grudging. We have a big job and big opportunity before us. There are many to witness to, let us do it with the ability God gives to us.

First Speaker: Elder William Carpenter. The Name of Jesus. Luke 24:44-53.

### THE NAME OF JESUS

The name of Jesus is so sweet,  
I love its music to repeat;  
It makes my joys full and complete,  
The precious name of Jesus.

I love the name of Him whose heart  
Knows all my griefs and bears a part;  
Who bids all anxious fears depart —  
I love the name of Jesus.

That name I fondly love to hear,  
It never fails my heart to cheer,  
Its music dries the falling tear;  
Exalt the name of Jesus.

No word of man can ever tell  
How sweet the name I love so well;  
Oh, let its praises ever swell,  
Oh, praise the name of Jesus.

What does the name of Jesus mean to you? The bumper sticker that simply says "Jesus" raises questions but when there is another one that says, "Jesus is Lord" we feel better.

Some despise the name of Jesus. Malachi 1:6, 14. This means that we do not always do all for Him that we would be able to do. These people brought poor sacrifices instead of their good. Mal. 2:2. The worst offense we can make against God is to take Him lightly. This may be worse than those who openly sin against Him.

Mal. 1:11. This is the opposite. He decreed that His name would be great among the Gentiles that we might have right to the name of Jesus. Mal. 3:16, 4:2, Rev. 11:18. There is a reward for them who fear His name. Whether we are small or great we should reverence His Name. We should fear to displease Him. There is a reward for a cup of cold water.

Ps. 8:1. His name excells every other name. Ps. 111:9. Holy and reverend is His Name. Some didn't reverence Him.

Ps. 135:13. His name endures forever though our names may soon be forgotten. His name will be remembered even by those who despise Him. Prov. 18:10. His name is a strong tower and a place of protection even in the darkest valley.

Isa. 7:14. His name shall be called Emmanuel, which means, "God with us." He is still with us. Isa. 9:6. He named Him Jesus, Luke 1:31, because He would save His people. Joseph and Mary were obedient unto God's choice of a name. There is two sides to Him, a sweet side and also a terrible side.

Rev. 19:12. He has a name unknown to any other. Verse 13. His name is the Word of God. John 1:1. He brought God's Word to us. Verse 16. King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He is all of these things. Those who reject Him will find Him to be so. Rev. 3:12. To the overcomer, will be given the new name. Can others see Jesus in us now? Is His name written on us now?

The name of Jesus is above every name. Phil. 2:9-11. Eph. 1:20-21. Every knee will bow and every tongue will confess. If we honor His name now there will be rejoicing. If we reject it now there will be weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth. Heb. 1:4. His name better than angels because He is the Son of God. John 1:12. Those who believe have the power to be a son of God. Acts 4:12. The only name whereby we can be saved. Acts 2:21, 38. In His name is salvation and the gift of the Holy Ghost. Rom. 10:13. Everyone that calls on His name shall be saved. It is not a matter of physically calling out His name but it is a call from the heart.

There is a need for soul searching, even though He is ever near.

In John 14, 15, 16 there are many promises to those who call on His name but there are some qualifications. There were many miraculous healings in His name. The anointing is in His name. James 5:14-15. It is a wonderful thing. The devils were cast out in His name. The Church's authority is in the name of Jesus. I Cor. 5:4-5. We are exhorted to do all things in His name. We should be happy to be reproached for His name's sake.

His name should be glorified in us. The world should see Jesus in us. How many things do we do that we would be ashamed to say that we do it in the name of Jesus? If we do those things then we are not glorifying Him. Jesus spoke of some who would come speaking of their religious works but He would reject them as evil workers. We need to be careful when we say we come in the name of Jesus. We are to be His Ambassadors. The sons of Sceva tried to cast out devils in the name of Jesus but the devils recognized Jesus and Paul but not these.

Can we say we come in the name of the Lord? He has given us that privilege. Let us not treat it lightly. Where two or three are gathered together in His name, He is in their midst.

Take the name of Jesus with you,  
Child of Sorrow and of woe;  
It will joy and comfort give you,  
Take it, then, where'er you go.

To be continued.

## PRAYER

In thinking of prayer, my mind goes back to my dear father, who has answered that call to join the dear ones in Glory. He was always willing to stop what he was doing to kneel and pray for those who asked him to pray. One day I was in the field where my father was plowing with a team of horses. A man and wife stopped and asked my father to pray. The wife said she was lost and was going to die and she wanted so much for him to pray for her. So my father gave the lines to me, laid his hat on the ground and the three kneeled together in the field. I think I can still hear him praying for this dear soul, but she left this world before her soul was saved. Later her husband and some of the children came and were baptized.

My father loved the Lord. He loved to pray. I also remember when he held a Revival that he would tell the members that if they wanted souls saved to come a half hour early and meet together in a class room and have a season of prayer. His revivals always got results. I feel that is what is lacking today. If we loved the lost souls and those of our number who have gone back into the world of sin, we might be able to win them.

I do know from experience that prayer does great things. While I was at the Bethany Bible School in Chicago, one of the girls from the school had worked in a home a few hours one afternoon. When the lady went shopping, she put a ten dollar bill in a drawer in her presence. After she had left, this girl took the bill from the drawer. When the officer came to the school, she told him she never saw the bill. So the Sister in charge of the girls in the school called all of us together for a prayer service but this girl refused to come down. We all kneeled in prayer and each one prayed that if she had taken the money she would come to the Sister in charge and tell her. While we were still praying she came with the money and said she had taken it. Here we see how prayer helped. A fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. We are told where two or three are gathered together Christ is there. Sometimes it takes a lot of praying to convert a soul but it is well worth it.

Let us all pray daily for those who have left the Fold. We should never get tired of the story of Salvation. We know the value, the Bible tells us, of one soul coming to Christ. Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint upon his knees. Prayer is the key that unlocks God's treasure house.

It was a sad day when the Churches began to organize instead of agonize before God. The Churches of today depend too much on education and organization. These things are important, yet they never can take the place of a Christian praying for some lost soul. When we go to God in prayer, the devil knows we go to get or replenish our strength against him, so he brings all the opposition he can against us.

In the churches of this land, prayer doesn't seem to mean a great lot. They stand to pray, very seldom do they kneel in prayer. We read in the Bible about the great men who spent alot of time in prayer.

What has happened to the old time prayer meetings? When I was young we met for prayer meetings and there was a lot of prayers. Now we've changed the name to Bible Study. We read in God's Word about people praying all night. We read where Jacob prayed all night. I wonder what would happen in our Church today, if we met and had an all night prayer meeting. Probably many souls would be won. Moses prayed forty days and nights to save a nation. His prayers were answered. "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength."

Jesus prayed alot. I think He prayed in the morning a great while before day. He went out to the desert, a quiet place. He must have felt prayer was more important than rest. He went into the mountain and prayed all night. Here again, it seems prayer was more needed than rest.

He needed workers. "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest that he

would send forth laborers unto the harvest." In God's Word, I don't find where Jesus taught men to preach, but He did teach them to pray. Paul admonishes us to pray without ceasing. I feel more good has come through prayer than any other avenue. There are many records of things that have happened through prayer.

May our Heavenly Father breathe on us a real passion for prayer, that will be the means of transforming our Churches and nation into a mighty power for good.

Sister E. M. Alltus

## MARRIAGE

### STUMP - EBERLY

Sis. Ella F. Stump, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Paul Stump of Union, Ohio and Bro. Donald A. Eberly, son of Bro. and Sis. Mark Eberly of Myerstown, Pennsylvania were united in marriage on July 25, 1981.

After a sermon by Bro. Allen Eberly, uncle of the groom, the couple were married by Bro. Paul Stump at the Frystown Dunkard Brethren Church, Frystown, Pennsylvania.

Their new address is: R.D. #1, Richland, Pennsylvania 17087.

## OBITUARY

### WALTER LEWIS

It was with regret that Swallow Falls Dunkard Brethren Church lost its newest, yet oldest in age, member.

Bro. Walter C. Lewis was born March 29, 1891 at Sines, Maryland. He died June 25, 1981 at Oakland, Maryland.

He lived on the home place where he was a retired farmer and school bus driver.

He had been a member of the Swallow Falls Congregation for nine months. He is survived by a cousin Olive Lewis with whom he resided and several nieces and nephews.

## NEWS ITEMS

### NOTICE

I have in my possession a Bible that was left at the Conference Grounds. It is a Cambridge, Red Letter Edition, about 5x7 inches in size.

If the owner will notify me, I will send it to them.

Brother Carl E. Reed

4716 - 139th Street

Grandview, Missouri 64030

## PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

The Pleasant Ridge Congregation plans, the Lord Willing, for the Harvest Meeting, September 20. Bro. Bert Smith will bring the harvest message.

Our Lovefeast will be November 7-8, 1981, beginning at 10 o'clock Saturday morning, at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon and the Lovefeast Saturday evening. All day services on Sunday.

Come and enjoy these meetings with us.

Sister Ruth Kleinhen, Cor.

## WALNUT GROVE, MARYLAND

The Lord willing, the Walnut Grove Congregation will enjoy another refreshing Revival Meeting, September 27 through October 4. Elder Joseph Flora of Adel, Iowa, will be the evangelist.

We invite each one to come and enjoy these services with us. Pray that the Church may be strengthened in the work of the Lord and that more souls may be saved.

Our Fall Lovefeast will be held on October 4 with all-day services. We are few in number and appreciate other members coming in to worship with us.

Sister Betty Shelly, Cor.

## WEST FULTON, OHIO

The Lord willing, the West Fulton Congregation plans to hold Revival Meetings, Sunday, October 4 through Sunday, October 18. Harvest Meeting will be held on October 18. Bro. Allen Eberly of Ephrata, Pennsylvania will be our Evangelist.

We invite all who can to come and worship with us.

Sister Elaine Leatherman, Cor.

## PLEVNA, INDIANA

The Plevna Congregation enjoyed a two week Revival ending August 9 with Brother Fred Pifer as evangelist.

We were happy when four young souls came forward and accepted Jesus as their Savior.

We were also glad for the presence of Sister Diane and daughters during the two weeks. We pray God's blessing on them as they continue on in the Lord's work.

The Lord willing, Plevna will have a Harvest Meeting Sunday, September 27. Bro. Paul Stump will be the guest speaker. We invite all to this service.

Sister Verda Lorenz, Cor.

## CORRECTION

The dates for Englewood Revival Meetings are September 20 through October 4, 1981.

## **THE CHILDREN'S PAGE**

### **THE WIDOW AND THE JUDGE**

Luke 18:1-8

Judges are people. Some are good and some are not. Jesus gave many illustrations or parables to the people. One of these parables was about an unjust judge. Of all people a judge should be a just person — one who would always make the best decision possible. This judge was not a good man. Jesus says, "He feared not God, neither regarded man." He was a selfish individual and only did that which would give him the most satisfaction. He probably took bribes or money from people and like a crooked lawyer would plead their case for them even though he knew they were in the wrong.

The judges under the law were to judge the fatherless and plead for the widow. This judge couldn't have cared less about others. It so happened that there was a poor widow who came to this judge and asked him to take her part against an adversary. She may have owed money to someone and didn't have it to pay. It may have meant loss of her home or even her children. Sometimes when a person didn't have money to pay a debt they would have to give their children as bond servants or slaves. Anyway the woman wouldn't give up but kept on asking the judge to help her. At first the judge ignored her but after a while he said to himself, "Though I fear not God, nor regard man; yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her; lest by her continual coming she weary me."

And Jesus said, "Hear what the unjust judge says. And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them. I tell you that he will avenge them speedily." God is not unjust but He does like for His children to communicate with Him. Sometimes it seems that God doesn't hear us but possibly we think that God will give us exactly what we ask. God always answers prayer but sometimes He says, "No." God gives us what is best for us, not what we think we want.

God does not grow weary because we continually pray to Him, but like the unjust judge, He will take our part if we continue to call upon Him. "Pray without ceasing and in everything give thanks!"

Brother Rudy Cover

## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR OCTOBER, 1981 DELIGHTS

Memory Verse: Psa. 119:77

Let thy tender mercies come unto me, that I may live: for thy law is my delight.

Thur. 1 - Psa. 119:25-40

Fri. 2 - Psa. 119:41-56

Sat. 3 - Psa. 119:57-72

Memory Verse: Psa. 119:47

And I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved.

Sun. 4 - Psa. 119:73-88

Mon. 5 - Psa. 119:89-104

Tues. 6 - Psa. 119:137-152

Wed. 7 - Psa. 119:161-176

Thur. 8 - Psa. 147:1-20

Fri. 9 - Prov. 1:1-33

Sat. 10 - Prov. 2:1-22

Memory Verse: Prov. 3:12

For whom the Lord loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.

Sun. 11 - Prov. 3:1-35

Mon. 12 - Prov. 8:1-36

Tues. 13 - Prov. 11:1-31

Wed. 14 - Prov. 12:1-28

Thur. 15 - Prov. 15:1-33

Fri. 16 - Prov. 16:1-33

Sat. 17 - Prov. 18:1-24

Memory Verse: Prov. 15:8

The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord; but the prayer of the upright is his delight.

Sun. 18 - Prov. 19:1-29

Mon. 19 - Prov. 24:1-34

Tues. 20 - Prov. 29:1-27

Wed. 21 - Isa. 1:1-31

Thur. 22 - Isa. 13:1-22

Fri. 23 - Isa. 42:1-25

Sat. 24 - Isa. 55:1-13

Memory Verse: Isa. 42:1

Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.

Sun. 25 - Isa. 58:1-14

Mon. 26 - Isa. 62:1-12

Tues. 27 - Isa. 65:1-25

Wed. 28 - Isa. 66:1-24

Thur. 29 - Jer. 6:1-30

Fri. 30 - Jer. 9:1-26

Sat. 31 - Mic. 7:1-20

Memory Verses: Isa. 58:13-14

If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable; and shall honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: Then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Mic. 7:18

Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy.

Paul R. Myers  
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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

OCTOBER 1, 1981

NO. 19

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## HO! REAPERS OF LIFE'S HARVEST

Ho! reapers of life's harvest, Why stand with rusted blade,  
Until the night draws round thee, And day begins to fade?  
Why stand ye idle, waiting For reapers more to come?  
The golden morn is passing, Why sit ye idle, dumb?

Thrust in your sharpened sickle, And gather in the grain;  
The night is fast approaching, And soon will come again;  
The Master calls for reapers, And shall He call in vain?  
Shall sheaves lie there ungathered, And waste upon the plain?

Come down from hill and mountain In morning's ruddy glow  
Nor wait until the dial Points to the noon below;  
And come with stronger sinew, Nor faint in heat or cold,  
And pause not till the evening Draws round its wealth of gold?

Mount up the heights of wisdom, And crush each error low;  
Keep back no word of knowledge That human hearts should know;  
Be faithful to thy mission In service to the Lord,  
And then a golden chaplet Shall be thy just reward.

- I. B. Woodbury

## USE IT OR LOSE IT

Our natural bodies to function well must be used. If a limb is afflicted and unable to be used, it will soon lose its ability to be used. When a person suffers a stroke that affects a limb it requires persistent, rigorous exercise to restore the limb to usefulness. Some because of discomfort do not use a limb, in a few days it will be stiff. Greater discomfort must be endured then to restore it to usefulness.

There are many parallels between the natural body and the Spiritual body. To each of us is given certain talents. Although these talents are given in varying degrees, still each must use the talent given him. He can not excuse himself because others were given more talents. The man of one talent was severely chastised because he did not even try to use that talent. In the end he lost even that talent. Our natural talents are God given and should be used for His glory. We also have Spiritual talents that He has given also to be used for His glory. These talents are varied and given in varying degrees. If all in the Church had the same talent, there would be a great lack in the other areas of service within the Church. No matter how obscure or unglorious the talent that we have been given, it is to be used. All talents are not attention getters. Some talents are very private, yet they can be used to further the Lord's work. The one who has the talent of doing good janitorial work may not receive much public recognition for his work, but if his work is left undone the public services of the Church may be made unappealing to visitors.

Other private talents that may never be made public but yet are so essential are private prayer and generosity. Others may never

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****OCTOBER 1, 1981**

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$1.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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realize what has been done for them by the one who has prayed for them. Few may realize the source of gifts that they have been given in the hour of need. These are private talents that often have as great influence as some of the talents that are more public.

The talents that we have been given must be used, just like the parts of our bodies. If they are not used they will at first grow stiff so that they become more difficult to use and finally if entirely ignored they will disappear. God has given each talent that it might be used for His work, but if it is not used, His work will still be done. The one who refuses to use his talent is the one who will ultimately suffer for it. If the talent has been lost, then at the last accounting there will be a severe penalty to pay. The servant of one talent was chastized for not gaining interest on his talent, what will be the consequences if the talent is altogether lost?

The minister who refuses to minister, the song leader who refuses to lead singing or the deacon who will not wait on tables or go on the visit will pay a price because their talents are so obvious and public. But private members also are amenable to God for the use of their talents. So whatever talent God has given to each one, that person must use that talent or lose it and pay the consequences.

Beyond the talents we have been given, there are other opportunities given us that must be used or they will be lost. The offer of salvation must be accepted or it will be of no avail. God's Spirit will not always strive with man. His Spirit will convict but He will not force one to believe and act upon that belief. The plan of salvation may be very well known. The life of Jesus may be known, at least superficially, by most people. The need of a Christian life may be admitted by most. Yet if these beliefs are not acted upon they will only return to mock. Judgment will be so much more severe for those who have known the way of righteousness but have failed to follow it. When we know right but do it not, we are guilty of sin. Sin can never enter Heaven. This is the most tragic example of losing what was set before us for our use. What we lose in this life may not be too serious but if we lose salvation it is for eternity. There can not be any greater loss than this. God paid a terrible price for our salvation, but if we neglect it then we have lost the greatest thing that He has intended for us to enjoy.

Whether it is our God-given talents or God-bought salvation, it is important that we make use of what has been provided for our benefit. God has given these opportunities; it is for us to use them. To lose them is to mock God, for He has given us the very things that He knows we need and the very things that we can use for His Glory.

Please, use your talent and His plan of salvation for your soul. If you do not, your loss will be eternal. Use it or lose it!

## IMPROVING THE SILENCE

An old New Englander was approached by a man who tried to start a conversation. After failing in several attempts, the visitor asked if there were a law there against talking. The old fellow said, "No, but we have an understanding that a feller ought to be sure he can improve the silence before he talks." Amusing, but it is good common sense. This old fellow apparently wasn't sure he could say anything to improve the silence, so he simply kept quiet.

There is "a time to keep silence, and a time to speak." (Ecc. 3:7) Poorly timed comments often do more harm than good. There are countless instances when silence would have been far better than the sharp or unkind words spoken. Silence is better than giving foolish advice, or giving good advice at the wrong time. Whether you are a lay member, a teacher or a preacher, whether talking to a friend or foe, saint or sinner, be sure you can improve the silence before you speak. See Prov. 25:11.

Sometimes we think as long as we avoid foolish talk and senseless arguments that we've done all that's required. Then whatever else we say is good as long as it's true, and if people don't like it, they are too sensitive. Yet there are times when we can do more good by talking to the Lord about people (prayer), rather than talking to people about the Lord (witnessing). When people's hearts are not open and receptive to the things of the Lord, we'd better pray and let the Lord do the speaking. He knows exactly when and how to get the message across, for He alone can touch and soften their hearts. Our witnessing, no matter how scriptural, cannot do this.

A woman had gotten into the habit of preaching at her unsaved husband and felt very righteous about it. She was very sure it was her duty to tell him how wrong he was until someone pointed out to her that she was only driving her husband farther away from the Lord. She then asked God to give her the gift of silence. It was hard at first but when she concentrated on praying and remained silent, it wasn't long until her husband committed his life to Christ. She learned the hard way what we all must learn and that is to keep still when we've said enough.

Knowing when you've said enough or when to be silent altogether requires Holy Spirit wisdom and control. It is needed in public speaking and in private conversations. Unless you really mind the Spirit, you can say things in such an offensive way that the good in it is lost to the hearer. When you arose ill will by your thoughtlessness, it IS your responsibility, and you can't excuse yourself on the basis that what you said is true. Some people will never accept the truth because they don't want God, but others will if you allow the Holy Spirit to have control.

"The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary." Isa. 50:4a. Knowing both how to speak and when is so important if we are to help anyone. With all the stress and distress of ordinary living, people are weary and need encouragement. When heartaches come, the weariness increases and how good it is to talk with someone who understands. Even when we don't really understand, it will still be an encouragement if we will show them what Jesus can do for them.

Kindness and loving concern go a long ways in encouraging the weary and in witnessing to the lost. Sometimes you may not know what is best, but if you try to be sensitive to other's needs, you can soon see when it's best to be silent and when a few well-chosen words are needed. If you can visualize yourself in their situations, you won't be so hasty to speak, for you will realize that the wrong words will only increase their heartache. The phrase, "if you can't help, don't hinder" is good to remember also.

"Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man." Col. 4:6. Salt is intended to enhance the flavor of food, not cover it up. Anything properly seasoned is just right and that's the way our speech should be. "If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body." James 3:2b. Once salt is added, you can't remove it, and once words are spoken, you can't call them back. If you offend with words, your speech is not properly seasoned and much harm is done. That is why knowing how to answer is so important.

There will be times when even your best efforts will be misunderstood, and silence is best. When someone takes issue with you, you may not be able to make them understand no matter what you say. Jesus did not defend Himself and surely He had reason to if anyone ever did. He was accused of blasphemy when He told the truth, so further explanations would not have been accepted either. When people's minds are already made up, silence is better than a defensive conversation. If you have done well and pleased God, let Him speak for you.

"He that hath knowledge spareth his words." Prov. 17:27a. Sometimes all we do when we speak is reveal our ignorance, and what a shame that is to us! We can know all about a matter and still be in ignorance if we lack understanding. Having alot to say, speaking forcibly at great length and so on is no measure of knowledge or wisdom. Rather, quietness is a better indication of wisdom. If we can't improve the silence and say something truly worthwhile, it's time to keep quiet. "He that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding." Prov. 17:28b.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## 1981 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Continued from September 15, 1981 Issue

SUNDAY A.M.

Second Speaker: Elder Harley Flory. "Present before God" Acts 10:19-33.

Everyone of us is here present before God. We are more responsible for having been here at this place and hearing what we have heard. We have a responsibility to the many young people here. The responsibility for the converted soul is with the Church. Too often we labor and pray for the saving of souls then we leave them there and ignore them.

What kind of hearers are we? Do we hear the true sound of the Word of God? If we are good hearers there is a great blessing to be received. Cornelius was a soldier. He was one of sixty leaders in the army of six thousand. He was a centurion or leader of one group of one hundred men in that army. He was a wise man. He was not given to rash impulsiveness. He was sensible and prudent. As members of the Church we have a duty to bear witness. We have been called to be here by God to hear what He would have us to do and to encourage each other. Cornelius called others to meet with him for a purpose. We should have a purpose in meeting here to hear what God has said. There was prior preparation. Cornelius was a good man and had given alms. The angel appeared to him and told him what to do. Cornelius heard and followed that direction. At the same time, the angel was working with Peter on the housetop. Peter was on a pedestal of self-righteousness that he needed to come down from. Too often we get up there too. Too often we would rather the lost would come to us instead of us going to them. We are going to be held responsible for them. It was an individual matter with Cornelius and with Peter. It will be an individual account for each of us. We do not know when we will be called to give that account unto God. Peter didn't understand all that happened but when he was told to go with those at the door, he was willing to go. We need to see what we can do with the lost world at our door. Peter found that by obeying he received more light along the way. Many times we have not known which way to go. Then we could do one of two things, either follow the light we had or to ignore it. We wonder how Jonah could go to sleep during the storm. Are there times when we have been dozing instead of doing the work of the Lord? We need a vision of what the world needs?

What does the world need? It needs the name of Jesus Christ. It needs a witness like you and I, common men. The men who came for Peter didn't dare enter into that house because they weren't Jews. But God was already working with Peter to bring him down

to common men. Simon the tanner was defiled through his work with dead animals. In the past Peter would not have stayed in that house but God had given him that much progress preparing him for Cornelius' call. Peter invited those men in because of God's command. Do we always deal effectively with those whom God sends to us or do we regret our choice later?

Peter had taken six others with him that there might be seven to confirm the truth of the matter when he was questioned about it later.

This was an outreach to the Gentiles. If there ever was a need for an outreach from the Church it is today. Instead of Cornelius coming to Peter, he sent for Peter and Peter went. How often do we want the sinner to grovel before us instead of pointing them toward Jesus Christ? Peter would not allow Cornelius to worship him but reminded him that he was also a man.

On Lake Genessaret, the disciples had fished all night but had caught nothing. But when Jesus bade them to cast on the other side, they had an abundant catch. This so amazed Peter that he wished the Lord to depart from him, a sinful man. Now Peter was going forth as a fisher of men. Are we fishers of men? Are we willing to cast out the net? Are we willing to do like Peter?

What was his message? He said that he perceived that God was no respecter of persons. The coming of Jesus was dear to God. He equipped Peter with the Spirit and power. That Spirit is still as powerful today. He preached the name of Jesus to them. If we go in the name of Jesus today God will go with us. Unless we go in that name, our going will be futile and in vain. Jesus went about healing which displeased the leaders, for it took away from them. Their jealousy led to His crucifixion but He conquered death. We as Christians are witnesses of the resurrection of Jesus. It is not enough to know about Jesus but we must know Him in the power and the strength of the resurrection. He is a moving force in our service for God.

Church membership is not the end of the road. To become a member of the body of Christ is the beginning. The proof of our Christian living is that it works. Christianity does something. It is not dead. The Church has a work as a soul saving station. Christianity takes bad and gives good. Actions speak louder than words. There is a coming day when there will be many surprises. There will be many surprises on the judgment day. Some will be disappointed because they did it not unto the least. Are we using the opportunities we have to minister to those at our door? The Spirit worked that day when Peter preached at Cornelius' house. That Spirit will still work when we go in the power of the resurrection. The Holy Ghost came upon those who heard, to the amazement of Peter's companions.

There was a great revival there. They wanted him to stay and instruct them. We need to be instructed. We need to be good hearers. We need to be doers. May we ask for the leading of the Holy Spirit. May we wait for that still small voice then may we follow His leading in each of our lives so we may glorify our Heavenly Father. May desperate souls have enlightenment like those at Cornelius' house. There was alms-giving, deeds done and there was sacrifice. It took it all working together. If I become the missing link in God's plan, it is going to be me who is going to miss the blessing. May God help each one of us to be a greater service to our God and Jesus Christ. May we see ourselves at the foot of the cross as the chief of sinners. We are not above the Apostle Paul. May God help us individually and as a Church that we might maintain the position of soul salvation.

Closing: Elder Hayes Reed.

We have heard many wonderful things in these sermons this morning.

To be continued.

## ABUNDANT HARVEST

The gathering together of the fruits of the earth at the end of the growing season also means the reward for labor or operations. Actually it all depends upon the fruits of the earth, for other labor and its products would soon cease if the food supply stopped.

We are passing through a period when the sins and misunderstandings of man has caused a shortage of fruits of the earth, at many places. Worse than that the destructive power that man has developed, has used and is using, has destroyed the ability of the earth to produce a harvest, at many places. As a result multitudes have starved and are suffering for the lack of food. "Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice: for the Lord will do great things. Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree beareth her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength. Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month. And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the vats shall overflow with wine and oil." Joel 2:21-24.

The Lord has blessed us, the pastures grew, the trees bear their fruits, because God hath given sunshine and rain. God has once more fulfilled His promise to Noah, "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." Gen. 8:22. We have been so bountifully blessed that again the storehouses are being filled and

we are able to ship tons of food to other countries, where many are actually suffering from want of food.

"Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God." How much reverence and adoration are we each giving unto God? Let us notice the attitude of the prophet of old, even when there was famine, "Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation." Heb. 3:18. Not make merry, but rejoice, be thankful and praise the Lord. The harvest should strengthen our faith in Him and in the promises and teachings of His Word. We should strive with more zeal to obey His commandments.

Now let us look at the harvest from God's point of view and see how well He can rejoice because of the Spiritual harvest. "But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest." Matt. 9:36-38.

I fear the Lord does not have much reason to rejoice for the faithful are too few. One of the reasons is, that we are not faithful as laborers to prepare souls of men and women for reaping. "The harvest is the end of the world." Matt. 13:39. "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." Jer. 8:20. Why? Because we will not yield ourselves to His commandments and ordinances. We are too much concerned about these temporal problems, to be true workers, such as might influence, teach and lead souls into God's kingdom.

Brother Howard J. Surbey  
Littlestown, Pennsylvania 17340



## IN INN AFTER ALL

An eastern tale is told of a man who entered a palace and, spreading his bed in one of the rooms, pretended that he had mistaken the palace for an inn. The prince ordered the man to be brought before him and asked him how he had come to make such a mistake. "What is an inn?" the man asked the prince. "A place where travelers rest a little while before proceeding on their journey," replied the prince. "Who dwelt here before you?" the man asked. "My father," was the prince's reply. "And did he remain here?" "No," was the answer, "he died and went away." "And who dwelt here before him?" "His ancestors." "And did they remain?" "No, they also died and went away." "Then I have made no mistake, for your palace is but an inn after all."

## PRINCE OF PEACE

I'm glad Christ sends Peace to our souls. If you don't have that peace, now is the time to seek it. Eph. 2:18-22. Through Christ we have access by one Spirit unto the Father. "We are no more strangers and foreigners but citizens with the Saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the Apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone."

I would like to know if I say anything wrong here. I stand to be corrected, but if I tell you the truth you will have to accept it. In verse 19 we read we are no more strangers but have been grafted in with the Saints and the household of God. We have gotten so far away from God that Christ cannot work with us. We must come back into the fold and be strangers no more. We are a spiritual house, a Holy priesthood.

If you are not born into the Church of the Living God, you are eternally lost. So many today are not getting into contact with the household of God. Jesus is not far away, why not accept Him and work the rest of your days for Him. Let us worship the Lord lifting up the blood stained Emanuel. How far have we gone? Do we have constant faith, patience and Godliness? We find in Heb. 12 we are the only ones who can take that faith away.

We read in the Old Testament that they offered the blood of sacrifice. We need to offer the blood of Jesus Christ. I command each one to rise in the name of Jesus of Nazareth. I am sure each one wants to know more about Jesus. If we don't learn more about Him in our Sunday School and from the preachers, I tell you, dear ones, there is something wrong. We should have joy unspeakable and that peace within us.

Let each of us come boldly daily before the throne of grace, and seek guidance from on High. Unless we are broken in Jesus Christ He cannot use us. When a glass falls it breaks, so when we fall we break that fellowship with Christ our Lord. Only through Christ can we gain that fellowship. When we are born of water and the Spirit we can testify, we are children of God, and don't belong to the world anymore. Our sins are forgiven. We are new born babes in Jesus Christ. Let each of us so live that the people we meet daily will be able to tell we are children of the Lord. Let it be written on our hearts we are no more a stranger but forever His child.

When we see the sun shine it is a glorious light. That is the way a child of God, who has been born again, should be a glorious light to those who are still out in the world of sin. We have gone through that experience of the new birth. Dear ones, there is nothing like being a child of God. When Jesus went back to glory, He left us the Holy Spirit to guide us along the way.

Are you afraid to go out in the vineyard of the Lord and talk to lost souls. If truly you are His child you will want every one to learn of Him. If each of us do this, Satan won't have any room in our lives. Are we doing all we can to build up the Church or are we trying to tear it up?

What we need today is a spiritual Revival, so we can bring those who are away from Christ and His fold into the fold and bring those who have gone back into the world of sin and its pleasures to see what they are missing and come back and renew their vows to the Lord and make a new start. Dear one, let us strive for a great Revival. I know it can happen as it did when our faithful preachers of years gone by preached the Word and souls were saved.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, when you kiss each other with the holy kiss, do you mean you love them? Do you really mean it? If not, you are a hypocrite. I wonder if one can do this without saying I love you. If so how can one go behind your back and say evil things about you. I cannot understand how parents can bring children into this old world and then not prepare them for a home in Heaven.

Dear ones, we say we love each member. Do we follow the things and example the Lord gave? He tells us He prepared a feast, did He invite every one of just His best friends? No, He sent them out to bring in those on the street. If we are His children we had better follow the Word of God. Let us not be a lukewarm Church.

Pentecost was not only for those of that day but also for us in this day. If we get on fire for the Lord we will have what they had. I wonder what the Church would be like if every one was on fire for the Lord. Let us remember this is not our home we are just passing through. There is a City whose builder and maker is God. We are no more strangers, we have been adopted. As we travel over the country we are known as being adopted through the blood of the Lamb. We are one with the Prince of Peace. We need a religion written and known of all men.

From my 1966 General  
Conference Sermon Notes  
Sister E. M. Alltus



## DOCTOR AND PATIENT

A doctor visiting a patient, said to the sick one: "I want you to tell me what it is, this believing, faith in Jesus, and getting happiness?" The Patient replied: "Doctor, I have felt that I could do nothing, and I have put my case into your hands — I am trusting in you. This is what every poor sinner must do in the Lord Jesus Christ."

## AN OPEN LETTER

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We feel the need to write to so many of you, for we know you are wondering how things are going with us. You have a personal interest because 1. We have so many friends throughout the Brotherhood with a deep concern and 2. So many have sent money to support our problem, that it is only right that you should be informed. So this is a letter to each of you.

As many of you know Leonard has been failing in health again since December, losing weight and strength continually. This past Spring he was in constant pain. Since we try to attend Conference every year it was very hard on Leonard when so many around us were preparing to leave. He just thought he had to be there too, although he knew this was impossible.

We knew something had to be done besides just sitting at home and giving up, so we were told by friends about an excellent cancer hospital in Germany. We quickly worked on that. The main Doctor over there agreed to see us, but they had a waiting list and the first opening for us would be in September. That was too long to wait, for Leonard needed attention immediately. It was then suggested to us to inquire about the Del Mar Clinic in Mexico. We did and found it to be a well respected cancer clinic and hospital. I called down to ask how long it would take to get an appointment for Leonard. The answer I received was Heaven-sent — "Give us one day's notice!" That way they would have a room reserved for us at the clinic and also have a clinic van at the San Diego airport to pick us up. This gave us hope again. Believe me, I was desperate! I made reservations to leave for Mexico in five days.

The trip was an experience we will not forget. We knew that the doctors there want you to stay three weeks. We left home June 10 and came back July 1. It is not easy to travel with someone so sick, but in emergencies you do things you think you could not do otherwise. We flew non-stop from Philadelphia to San Diego. Leonard took the trip better than I expected. Saying "good-bye" to the children at the airport was the hardest thing he ever did in his life, because he honestly thought he would never see them again. He did not think he would come back alive. He was very low, physically and emotionally.

He was very apprehensive about going to another country and putting his problem in their hands. He was in for a big surprise. They gave him excellent care, were so kind, friendly and tried so hard to make us feel comfortable. The first few days they took tests. When he had had surgery in February 1980, his problem was

a tumor in the transverse colon. Now his problem is his liver. He has tumors on the liver plus the liver is swollen. They could not operate. What they are hoping for now is to keep the tumors from growing any larger if possible. There is no cure for this type of cancer, save a miracle. We must send a report of each blood test down to the doctors in Mexico. In two months there will be another liver scan. They will keep in close contact.

When we arrived at the clinic, Leonard weighed 116 pounds. He now has a better appetite and more strength and weighs 125 pounds. The first six days we were at the clinic, he was in a wheelchair. Then he got stronger and didn't need it. When we left the children to board the plane, they saw him leave in a wheelchair. They were so surprised when they came back to the airport three weeks later to pick us up and Leonard walked off the plane. We are working hard to see that he has proper food and exactly the care they prescribe.

Leonard's sister-in-law and her mother met us at the airport in San Diego and went along down to the clinic with us. It was so nice having family stay with us. We appreciated their thoughtfulness. The doctors encourage family and friends to visit, while a patient there. The atmosphere at the clinic is so wonderful. The Christian attitude surrounds you. Some of the doctors have Bibles on their desks. They liken your problem to certain stories in the Bible. One Doctor talked about Job and all his problems. Dr. Contrares, Sr., the man who is the head of the clinic and hospital teaches Sunday School each Sunday morning at a church. We had the opportunity to hear him and it was interesting. The doctors all make you understand that they do their part and the patient must do his, but the final say is up to God. You must have a will to live, but if God decides your time on Earth is up, then you must accept that also.

The different doctors give lectures each day to explain how they treat cancer patients. The patient plans to help his body to rebuild, if it is the Lord's will. The doctors at this clinic are doing a wonderful work and the three weeks we spent there were very rewarding. Every one connected with the clinic can speak English so that was no problem.

We want to give a special "thanks to each church that has sent offerings and to individuals who have sent love gifts, to those who call on the telephone from time to time, to those who have donated food from their gardens to add to our garden supply, to those who have come to cut wood for our fire place, also those who have sent us books to read, and to each and every one of you who sent encouraging letters and beautiful cards." Mail time is an important part of the day for Leonard. You'll never know what all these things

mean unless you have been in our shoes. We both know that many times the only thing that has carried us over the roughest spots have been the prayers of you dear, wonderful Brothers and Sisters. Drop us a line to let us know you still remember our dependence on you. Words cannot express the feeling we have for the way you have all stuck so close to us.

Please keep praying that what ever we must face in the future, we will have the strength to accept.

In Christian love,  
Sister Renee and  
Brother Leonard Wampler

## **NEWS ITEMS**

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

The Bible Monitor has been continuously published since October, 1922. It was issued monthly and the subscription rate was .75¢ per year. In October 1923 the Bible Monitor began to be issued twice a month and the subscription rate was set at \$1.00 per year. It has remained at that rate despite the tremendous increase in the cost of paper, printing and postage since then. The Publication Board has attempted to underwrite the difference between the subscription price and the amount spent to publish the paper. This difference has become too large to be ignored. Therefore the price of a one year's subscription will increase to \$2.00 beginning October 1, 1981. All new and renewal subscriptions postmarked before October 1 will be honored at the old rate.

Thank you for your continued interest, support and prayers.

### **QUINTER, KANSAS**

The Lord willing, the Quinter Congregation plans to hold their Revival Meeting October 18 through October 25, with our Lovefeast on Saturday, October 24. Bro. Henry Walker of Hickman, California will be our evangelist.

We invite all who can to come and worship with us.

Sister Judy Foster, Cor.



## **LITTLE GIRL'S DEFINITION**

A little girl, on being asked to tell what it was to live a Christian life, answered: "To live as Jesus would live, and to behave as He would, if He were a little girl and lived at our house."

## McCLAVE, COLORADO

Again the McClave Congregation is looking forward to a feast of Spiritual food.

The Lord willing, Brother Henry Walker of Hickman, California, will bring us the messages, October 26 through November 1, 1981.

There will be all day services, both Saturday and Sunday, with services starting at eleven o'clock Saturday morning, October 31 and our Lovefeast Saturday evening.

"Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." Rev. 22:17. Please come and worship with us.

Sister Aurelia Wertz, Cor.

## LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, the Lititz Congregation plans to have their Fall Lovefeast on Saturday, October, 17, 1981 starting at 2 o'clock with the Communion in the evening. A hearty invitation is extended to all who can attend our Lovefeast.

We are planning to start our Revival Meeting, Monday evening, November 2, 1981, ending Sunday, November 15 with Brother David Kegerreis as the evangelist. Everybody is invited to attend these meetings.

Sister Susanna B. Johns, Cor.

**OBITUARY**

## ETHEL LIKENS

Sister Ethel C. Likens, eighty-four years, of Star Rt. 1, Keyser, West Virginia was born December 30, 1896 and departed this life August 2, 1981. She had been in ill health for some time.

She was a daughter of the late William and Martha (Leatherman) Smootz of Antioch, West Virginia. She was a member of Ridge Dunkard Brethren Church. She was preceeded in death by her husband William H. Likens.

Surviving are four sons: Emory W. Likens, Odell W. Likens and Leo K. Likens, all of Star Rt. 1, Keyser, and William H. Likens, Jr., Rt. #1, Keyser; two daughters, Mrs. Madeline Cannon of Berlington and Mrs. Lessie Welch of Keyser, West Virginia; one sister, Mrs. Mamie S. Leatherman of Littlestown, Pennsylvania; eleven grandchildren and eighteen great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday, August 5, from Rotrucks Funeral Home Chapel, Keyser, West Virginia, by ministers Virgil Leatherman and Herman Belias. Interment in Davis Cemetery.

We will just say good bye here and good morning over there.

The Family

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

OCTOBER 15, 1981

NO. 20

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## THE SMALLEST PRAYER

God hears the very smallest prayer  
Nor sends a cross too great to bear,  
And though we stumble now and then,  
He always picks us up again.  
There is no moment day or night,  
When we are hidden from His sight,  
No wall too high nor door too stout,  
To keep His loving care without.

His ways are wiser than our own,  
His strength remains when ours is gone,  
We must not doubt nor question why,  
He sends the answers by and by.  
And this I know within my heart,  
All darkness fades and shadows part,  
And that sometime, somehow, somewhere,  
God sees and answers every prayer!

- Grace E. Easley  
Selected by Sister Helen Sweitzer

## BLOOD

The sight of blood is very upsetting for the many people, who become physically ill when they see it. Why do people react this way? Perhaps it is but squeamishness. But perhaps the flowing of blood bothers people because subconsciously they realize that the blood represents life.

Blood is necessary to sustain life. It flows throughout the body so each part of the body is kept alive and functioning. If the flow of the blood is impeded, that part of the body will die. If a major blood vessel is broken blood will flow too freely. Death may occur if too much blood is lost. Blood also is a purifying agent as it travels throughout the body. It carries fresh blood with life-sustaining oxygen from the heart and lungs to all areas of the body. At the same time it carries back the impurities that occur in all areas, so the impure blood can be reoxygenated and re-circulated throughout the body. Without the various functions performed by the blood, the body could not live.

The necessary functions of the blood in our physical bodies parallel the work of the blood, spiritually. It is the blood of Jesus Christ that is important to us spiritually. Although His blood flowed many hundreds of years ago, it is effective in providing spiritual life for us today. Without His blood there can be no spiritual life.

Even before His short ministry on this earth, the importance of His blood was illustrated many times through symbols in the Old Testament. Adam and Eve were clothed properly through the death of the animal that provided their clothing. Blood was shed in the securing of those skins. Fig leaves were unacceptable in God's sight because of their immodesty but the skins, that required the

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****OCTOBER 15, 1981**

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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price of shed blood, were a righteous covering. Our own moral efforts are fig leaves that fail to cover our sins. Our sins require the blood bought covering provided by Jesus' blood.

The Passover in Egypt illustrated the need of the applied blood that the death angel would pass over. Without the application of Jesus' blood to our souls, we are as good as dead, just like the Egyptians that night. The blood on the doorpost required the death of a perfect lamb. Our sins, inward and outward, required the death of God's perfect Lamb.

Today we do not wear animal skins but we attempt to dress modestly, partly in remembrance of our need for His provided, total sin covering. We do not keep the Passover service but we do remember the spilling of Christ's blood and the agony of His body in the communion service.

The shedding of His blood may seem to many a gruesome thing. Mankind would rather hear of something more pleasant. Their sensitivity is shocked when they think about their failed lives demanding the spilling of His blood. Many reject this awful truth. They do not appreciate that He was willing to suffer to that extent for their sakes.

It is a fact, that He did shed His blood on the cross. It is available. But we must apply it before it can accomplish its purpose. Many have a head knowledge concerning this but do not have the blood applied to their hearts. Although they know the provision that has been made for them and they know how to apply it, they still linger and neglect to use it. Considering the price God was willing to pay, why should any neglect it?

Certainly a knowledge of the blood must be in the mind. There must also be a belief in the ability of that blood to accomplish its purpose. There must be an acknowledgement of the need of each heart and life for the blood to be applied. There must be a confession of those sins that make the blood so necessary. There must also be a determination to quit sin and to live a life that will please God. There yet remains the need to have those sins removed. There has to be contact with that blood. This is accomplished symbolically through baptism. In that total washing of the body there is relief from sin, when combined with the other conditions provided. For the sinner, that baptismal stream becomes the blood of Christ provided to wash away their sins when plunged in it.

God paid a terrible price in order to rescue us from the danger we have placed ourselves in through sin. Just as a drowning man must grab the help thrown to him, so we must accept and apply that remedy to our selves. Jesus died for the whole world but the world must accept Him and His work individually.

The blood was shed for your sins. The plan has been wrought for application of that blood to your life. The question you must answer is whether you have applied it or not. Have you applied the blood?

## **BIBLICAL DISCIPLINE**

Discipline is a training that corrects or molds, by definition. As we think about the use of the word in enforcing obedience or order, we better understand the word in relation to its Biblical usage and context.

In Job 36, we find that God opened the people's ears to discipline and commanded that they return from iniquity. God does not tolerate the lack of discipline in lives today, just as He did not allow it in the time of Job. Elihu communicated this fact in God's defense.

Early in the Pentateuch, we find God commanding and demanding that His followers be disciplined. There was discipline in the Law, and Moses and Joshua accepted that fact and commanded all of Israel to obey Him. This was true during the time of the Kings as we see David and Solomon following under the discipline of God. We see Josiah and Jehosaphat, Joash, and others of this period in obedience and under discipline.

But even before this, we understand the demand for discipline in the earliest time of recorded history. Adam and Eve were disciplined under the personal hand of God. They accepted His authority and His love until the fall. When their lives became undisciplined and disobedient, God's anger was great.

New Testament teachings of discipline are many and varied. In the Gospel according to Matthew 18, we read of the discipline of believers. This teaching gives several reasons for excommunication from Christ's Church because of the lack of discipline. These include a consistent unforgiving spirit, a person routinely causing offenses, one hating Christ, routine disorderly conduct, an apostate or one who causes heresy or a consistent fornicator. I believe this is the meaning of the writing: "let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican." God through Paul, also required the Church to purge the leaven of sin and undiscipline from the body of believers. In I Timothy 5:20, Paul says: "Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear." I believe that statement shows forth the teaching of discipline to the fullest.

There are additional implications to Biblical discipline that I need to discuss here. Without discipline in our lives, we cannot live up to the expectations of our Lord. He showed us the ultimate in discipline by His vicarious death on the Cross. He lived such a highly disciplined life that He willingly fulfilled all of His obligations to the Father and to man in total completeness.

As our perfect example and the One whom we desire to emulate, we need to have strict discipline in our lives. This will allow us to separate ourselves from the world, to consider with greater import the concerns and problems of our Brothers and Sisters in Christ. Discipline to the commandments of God will take away the despair and despondency from our life because we will find contentment in serving Him.

Too many times man seems to feel deprived if he has to walk a well ordered and disciplined life. We become resentful of authority, both of Christ and the Church. But today we need well disciplined people more than ever before. With discipline will come unity and with unity comes a boldness and a greater ability to win souls for Jesus Christ.

There prevails an ubiquitous feeling of self exaltation and lack of self denial which is even creeping into the Church of the living God. With the placing of self on the throne and the "dethroning" of God, we lose all the discipline and control that we need to lead an ordered life. It inhibits us from going on to perfection in His service.

Let us not despise discipline, the divine reproof from God, the loving discipline of a Brother or Sister in the Lord, or from the Church. But let us grow by it. Let us become stronger as result of it. Through discipline, let us go on to greater heights of self denial and to reach the mark for which we are all striving.

Before concluding this discourse, we want to look at the necessity of our learning to discipline in true love and concern for others. This is the Christ way! Even as He was to communicate the discipline needed in the lives of the people in the seven churches in Asia in the book of Revelation. He tempered these disciplinary statements with concern, with love and with longsuffering. We need always to seek "wisdom that is from above." This is "peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy." James 3:17.

Discipline; live in it, abide by it, walk in the way of it!

Brother Leonard Wertz  
Torreon Navajo Mission

## THE THREE R's

"Readin', Ritin' and Rithmetic" are called the three R's. All are important in our education and are considered basic. Unless you master these three subjects, you won't go far in any field of education. A Christian also has three R's to consider, two of which must be overcome or they will master you. The third needs to be made a part of your life. Rest, resignation and resentment are the three R's which affect you in every area of life. Your attitudes and

outlook fall into one of these categories and determine whether you have a victorious life or a defeated one.

Resentment, a form of anger, is usually suppressed somewhat, but the irritation is still there. Resentment can be aroused by unreasonable demands on us by others, inconsiderate or rude people, too much pressure, spiritual life not up to par, and so forth. Not only does it affect us by eating at us until we explode or become bitter, but our resentment affects others by setting up barriers and closing off communication. Bottled-up resentment causes more and more irritation until we find ourselves becoming annoyed at every little thing. We have then become its slave.

Resignation, a step up from resentment, often is the next attitude assumed when someone discovers resentment isn't getting them anywhere. Webster says, "resignation, in Christian theology, is quiet submission to the will of Providence." Resentment indicates resistance; resignation means the resistance is gone. It is a passive state of acceptance and endurance. What's wrong with this? People think about being resigned to fate, of just accepting whatever comes. Christians are to be active participants in life, not just in a state of resignation.

There is a fine line between resignation and rest, both of which indicate quietness and acceptance of one's circumstances. Yet one who is at rest in the Lord has more than quietness. One definition of rest is "freedom from everything that disquiets, wearies or annoys; peace; quiet; security; tranquility." True rest is not dependent on circumstances, but is instead a state of mind and heart. When you are at rest, you have a positive outlook; there is trust, hope, contentment and happiness. Resignation is more negative, without hope or true contentment.

Rest is important to us physically, mentally and spiritually. Without it, we experience a continual drain of our energy, with no time to "refuel." We cannot be at our best without sufficient rest. Spiritual rest indicates we are not resisting God, but also that we have His peace within. There is freedom from annoying thoughts and disturbances within us, and security in God's love and care. We are able to rest because we know He loves us and will not allow us to be overwhelmed by anything.

Spiritual rest is resting in the Lord; it is not being inactive. We are to "rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him." (Psa. 37:7), not fret and worry because things are not going well. Many times we have troubles without end, while those around us seem to be doing just fine and yet God says rest! What He is telling us is He will take care of everything if we will wait for Him to do so. We should expect something while we look to the Lord and wait, namely that He will stay by us and care for us all through life.

The opposite of resting is fretting. We fuss and fret about our

own misfortunes, but we also get upset because of the lack of them in other people's lives. We fret because we think we have all the problems and misery or all the financial reverses, while others seem not to have a care in the world. Then is when we need to stop and consider what the believer's future will be. Read Psa. 37. We need to rest in the Lord and be assured in our hearts that regardless of the situation, the Lord will have the last word, and He will take care of His own.

Jesus said, "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Matt. 11:29. Sharing the same yoke means working together, functioning as a single unit. We need close fellowship with Christ so we can learn His Ways. His ways are not our ways and His must be learned before we can find the rest promised to us.

Resentment is a negative attitude which makes matters worse. It hinders us spiritually, for it keeps our eyes on the problem instead of on the solution — the Lord. Resignation is a hopeless outlook, of thinking we can't do anything about our troubles so we might as well suffer in silence. In rest, there is peace, hope, a glad-to-be-active attitude. Rest is what we need to have a victorious life, and a heart at rest draws others to that rest in the Lord. Is your life full of resentment? Are you resigned to being miserable in your heartache? Or, are you resting in God's care, knowing He will sustain you?

"But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt." Isa. 57:20. We can't see in a sinner's heart, but there is restlessness within as long as they seek satisfaction apart from God. The turmoil of the wicked is in direct contrast to a believer's peace. While the wicked cannot rest, the Lord sees to it that His people are blessed with peace. See Psa. 29:11. "In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and confidence shall by your strength: and ye would not." Isa. 30:15b. The children of Israel wouldn't accept God's rest. Will you?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## CARRIED ABOUT

"That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive." Eph. 4:14. "We henceforth", all who wish to follow from now on, "be no more children." I think, we all understand that he means childish in knowledge, weak in the faith, inconsistent in our judgment, easily yielding to every temptation, readily complying with every one's humor. Children are easily influenced, their beliefs are easily changed. This is largely because they take man at his word, without using any criterion, guidebook or storehouse of experience, to weigh those things they hear.

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." I Cor. 15:58. However, with all these scriptures we seem to be living in an age when men, even those who have accepted Christ and tasted of His goodness, do not adhere to these teachings. Why, do we not believe these scriptures? Are we not growing in grace and the knowledge of His word or may the trouble lie with us, that we are not "always abounding in the work of the Lord."?

"Carried about with every wind of doctrine", profane man has long given up the use of the wind as a tool — source of power — almost entirely because it is not reliable. One does not know when to depend on it, even then, if it will come with enough power to do his work or from which direction it will come.

How about the spiritual man? Please refer to the text at the beginning, "every wind of doctrine", of indefinite power, not knowing from whom it has come nor what the end will be, if we adhere to it. Notice this is set in motion by the sleight of men, mischievous subtlety of seducers using their "cunning craftiness" (skill in use of words and ideas) in order to seduce and deceive. True it may be spread far and wide as the wind, but is it fulfilling all righteousness? Is it pleasing God and will it bring a reward in eternity?

"But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ." Be careful that we speak, think and hear the truth; that we have love for God and our fellowman in our hearts, that we are growing up in Christ — like Him — about our Father's business.

Christ is only one; He taught one Gospel. We have one New Testament to mold our lives and direct our efforts. Christ said, "I will build my church", only one. "And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

"Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" No doubt plenty of some kind of faith, but how about The Faith?

Brother Howard Surbey  
Littlestown, Pennsylvania 17340

## 1981 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Continued from October 1, 1981 Issue

SUNDAY P.M.

Moderator: Elder Ray Reed.

Chorister: Bro. Clifford St. John.

Opening: Elder Jacob Ness. II Peter 1:1-12.

When we purchase a new item we often wonder how long it will last and what is the guarantee. This scripture tells us what the results will be. If we follow the scripture we will be neither blind nor unfruitful nor will we fall. That is a good guarantee. Beyond that there will be an abundant entrance into the Kingdom. Conference often seems too short but we are working to enter into a country that will never end. Praise the Lord.

First Speaker: Elder Galen Litfin. Ye Are Bought With A Price. I Cor. 7:23.

Today there is quite a struggle between good and evil just as there has always been since the time of Adam and Eve. We know that Lucifer came to Eve in the Garden and the battle began. There has been a mighty power struggle between God and Satan ever since pride entered Satan's heart and he desired to be equal with or above God. He was cast out of Heaven. Since, he has tried to control mankind. This is illustrated in the tempting of Job. Do we sometimes feel we are left alone by God as He tests us to see what we are made of. We find that Job survived the test and was willing to trust God even if it cost him his life.

Today there is a power struggle between nations. There is a struggle between leaders within our own government and between the Federal and State governments, the local governments and in the schools.

We must remember that we are bought with a price and are not to be the servants of men. In Revelation, when the first seal was opened there came forth a rider on a white horse. He had authority over the people. It is easy for various agencies to gain control over us. We should be concerned lest we become the servant of Satan. After Satan was cast out of Heaven, he went to and fro on the earth seeking whom he might devour. He transforms himself into an angel of light today. We should be concerned about deception and becoming the servants of men or being controlled by agents in this world. Many people are servants to the use of tobacco, alcohol, drugs and such things. They have become controlled by the things of this world. Some use these things to control other people and it is very dangerous.

There are other things that are as dangerous or more so than these habits. The governments of this world can be dangerous. David said that it was better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man. Also that it was better to trust the Lord than to put confidence in Princes. When we think of Princes we are thinking of those in authority. It could be all levels of governments of which are trying to control the people. We are thankful that God moved in the drafting of the Constitution. If it is followed faithfully, it would not let people in our nation attempt to control another group of people. It was written to give us freedom. There is a Biblical basis to our Constitution.

We find today that the governments require license or permit to do certain things. I do not believe these things are in harmony with God's Word. Jesus said He came to bring life and to give it more abundantly. He was the way, the truth and the life. He said that the truth would set us free if we knew it. Do we study the Bible so we can know the truth? If we do know it do we stand on His promises? It is important for us to do this. What would we think of Abraham or Daniel if they were told to get a license to do certain things? What of Abraham had had to get a permit to pitch his tent, from the people among whom he lived? Abraham knew who his Father was; he lived by faith; he wasn't controlled by those local people. He looked to God. The three Hebrew children were careful how they answered, but they could not bow down to the golden image. They were not controlled by the majority of the people. Do we as a minority feel that we can not speak for ourselves? We have examples in the Bible of those who stood up in the face of opposition. Daniel was a prime example. He could not be the servant of man.

When Jesus came into the world, He did much to set man free. Jesus tried to open the eyes of the people to set them free spiritually. He also was setting them free from the illnesses of this world when He healed their diseases. This shows that He did not want us to be controlled by governments. We are to be free agents to serve Him.

When Satan came into the world, his mission was just the opposite. He wants to control the people. In Revelation the mark of the beast is the number 666. By this he wants to control the world absolutely, even you and I. But Jesus paid a price. He gave us abundant life. He gave us the bread of life, which is the strength of our natural bodies. If we take the bread of life we will have strength to do right. We need the water of life, which is the Word of God daily.

Many feel they can do as they please. I Cor. 6:20. This body is not ours. We can not use it as we please. We must give an answer to God.

Do we meditate on the great price that Jesus paid for us? Did He feel in the Garden of Gethsamene like Job had? Did he feel alone? The angels came and ministered to Him. This is the beginning of the price being paid. What do we do when we realize what a great price has been paid? We repent, believe and are baptized and walk in the way of the New Testament teachings. How sad to consider the end of the ungodly. If the righteous are scarcely saved where will these who have lived to please themselves appear? When they face Christ in judgment they will know that a great price had been paid for them.

Jesus was tried by the governments of that day but He answered them nothing. He was not controlled by them. He overcame Satan at the time of His temptation. That was a great power struggle. Christ knew who He was. He answered from the Scriptures. He was not controlled by the controller of this world's system.

Satan is using the schools as a means to control people. The school districts have become controlled by the government aid. The government can not give us a thing until after they first take it away from us.

As those who are bought with a price we need to study the Word of God. We need to know what is there so we do not take part in world systems. We need to be careful because of Satan's subtlety. We are bought with a price so we must glorify God.

Another concern is the computer system. We are almost being dragged into it. Does this have a connection with the mark of the beast? We should realize the price paid for us and stand for the right. We should stay as far removed as possible from this world's system. We should be more concerned about being true to God than with our material possessions. These things all belong to God not to us. He will care for us. Some are far from the things of God. Their desires on worldly things. They are like the five foolish virgins. They are lacking. At His coming they will recognize their error in rejecting the great price that was paid.

God set His people free. He wants us to be free from the things of the world. We should feast on the Word of God, so we can help others to see the dangers of the world system. Jesus set us free from sin and from the control of this world.

To be continued.

## DOES FAITH ALWAYS SAVE?

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." Acts 16:31.

What is faith? It is to believe, trust in, rely upon. In Heb. 11:6 the words, "faith" and "believe" are used to express the same idea. "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." "Faith" and "believe" are the noun and verb forms of the same Greek word, "pistis" and "pisteuo." To have faith is to believe; to believe is to have faith. They are similar to the words "see" and "sight." To have sight is to see; to see is to have sight.

To have faith (to believe) is to trust. Our word "belief" is a synonym for the word "faith." We are saved by faith. Eph. 2:8, "For by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God." Rom. 5:1, "These being justified by faith."

There are degrees of faith. Little faith, Matt. 6:30. Great faith, Matt. 8:10. Strong faith, Rom. 4:20. Dead faith, James 2:20. Faith may be increased, Luke 17:5.

Some had a faith that did not save. John 12:42, "Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue." James 2:19, "The devils also believe and tremble." James 2:26, "Faith without works is dead."

How is it possible that faith doesn't always save? There is a living faith and a dead faith, both a saving faith and a nonsaving faith. A faith that obeys is a saving faith. A faith that does not obey is a dead faith. This means that the promise is to them who have a saving faith. Where there is no obedience to the Lord's commands, when such obedience is called for, there is no saving faith. A profession of faith is not enough. Faith must respond.

What response is the alien sinner to make to be saved by faith? He must be convinced of sin. Acts 2:37, II Cor. 7:10. He must repent. Acts 2:38. He must confess Christ. Rom. 10:10. Acts 8:37. He must be baptized, by trine immersion, for the remission of sins. Matt. 28:19, I Pet. 3:21, Acts 2:38; 22:16.

Conclusion: There are really two kinds of faith; one saving, the other non-saving. Non-saving faith claims salvation before baptism. Saving faith claims salvation on meeting the conditions of pardon given by Christ. These are: conviction, repentance, confession and baptism. To remain faithful after baptism means to trust Christ, which includes serving Him.

Faith is sometimes used as a comprehensive term to represent our attitude and response toward Christ. A mistake is sometimes made of reading those passages in which sinners are said to be saved by faith (where the word is used comprehensively) and making it mean faith only, faith before obedience. "Faith without works is dead." James 2:26.

Faith does not always save. Faith that responds to the Lord by obeying Him will save.

Brother W. E. Bashor

## **DON'T FORGET JESUS!**

The word "remember" occurs frequently in the Bible. But to me the most meaningful instance is when we are asked to think about our precious Lord as we participate in the communion service. Meditating on His suffering and death should always fill us with a deep sense of gratitude to God for providing our redemption.

Recently I heard a Christian friend, Roger Rose, tell this story: When he was a boy more than forty years ago, his young brother

was fatally injured in a tragic accident. A dirt road ran alongside their home, and only on rare occasions would an automobile be seen on it. But one day as his brother was crossing on his bicycle, a car came roaring over a nearby hill, and he was run over and killed. Mr. Rose said, "Later, when my father picked up the mangled, twisted bike, I heard him sob out loud for the first time in my life! He carried it to the barn and placed it in a spot we seldom used. Father's terrible sorrow eased with the passing of time, but for many years whenever he saw that bike, tears began streaming down his face." Brother Rose continued, "Since then I have often prayed, 'Lord keep the memory of Your death that fresh to me! Every time I partake of Your memorial supper, may my heart be stirred as if it occurred only yesterday. Never let the communion service become a mere formality but always a tender and touching experience.' "

Christian, when you partake of the Communion does the thought of Christ dying on a cruel cross move your heart and motivate you to holy living? DON'T FORGET JESUS — HE REMEMBERED YOU!

Selected by Sister Susie St. John

## LIFE IS SHORT

Life is too short to find fault, quarrel, feel hurt at each other. Let us realize we are wasting precious time, time that could be used to help Christ's work here below and win a soul to Him. Let us not look for flaws in others, as through life we go. If you see some flaws in someone, could you be somewhat blind, and look for the virtue behind them? I often think when the sky is so cloudy and dark, somewhere there is in the shadow, a tint of light hiding. It is so much better to look for the good than something that will hurt someone. We are all striving for a better life, then why destroy it? If we are wise we will shape our lives into God's plan. If we are trying to mold our lives into the life of Christ we will have no place for fault finding. We will love instead of hating one another. Life here at its very best is very short and we as His followers do not have time to look at each other to see what is wrong in their lives.

Let each of us look into our own heart and see if we are free from sin. If any one has hurt your feelings go to them and make it right. Lots of times we are to blame for part of the trouble. Let us look at the bright side of life. Time is precious. We all need strength to keep us pure and straight in every way and even in our business. God sees all we do, so let us be careful, as we may get by here but not in Eternity. We all need power from on high to keep us, so we won't do any thing wrong. Let the sunshine in and forgive and if it is in your power, a broken heart to mend. Remember that Love is all that counts in the end.

Sister E. M. Alltus

## SHARING THE GOSPEL

"I can't get interested in missions!" said Sam Skimp as he walked out of church with Farmer Frank. "The minister preached a mighty fine sermon about it, but I'm just not interested.

"No, Skimp, it isn't to be expected you should," said Farmer Frank.

"What do you mean?" asked Mr. Skimp. "Didn't the minister say we should all give for missions?"

"Sure, but getting interested in missions is just like getting interested in a bank. You have to put in a little something first. The more you put in the more interest you get. Time, or money, or praying, it doesn't matter which — but, put in something yourself or you will never have any interest. Try it, Skimp, my friend! Just put in a little something, and you're sure of the interest."

Selected by Sister Mildred Skiles

## STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation (Act of Aug. 12, 1970; Section 3685, Title 39, United States Code). Showing the ownership, management and circulation of The Bible Monitor, published semi-monthly at Wauseon, Ohio 43567, October 1, 1980.

1. The names and addresses of the editor, publishers, and owners are: EDITOR, Milton Cook, Apt. 3, 1309 W. Lynne Ave., Anaheim, Calif. 92802; PUBLISHER, Glanz Lithographing Company, 4-4017-11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567; OWNER, Dunkard Brethren Church, Apt. 3, 1309 W. Lynne Ave., Anaheim, Calif. 92802.

2. There are no stockholders, bond holders or other security holders.

3. The average number of copies per issue distributed by mail and otherwise the previous twelve months was 1,337.

## MARRIAGE

### STUMP - JOHNS

Sis. Debra Stump, daughter of Bro. and Sis. John Stump, Bernville, Pennsylvania and Bro. Mark Johns, son of Bro. and Sis. David Johns, Paradise, Pennsylvania, were united in marriage July 11 at the Dunkard Brethren Church, Frystown, Pennsylvania, by Elder Laverne Keeney after a sermon by Bro. Kenneth Wolfe. The couple will reside at RD #1, Bernville, Pennsylvania 19506.

## NEWS ITEMS

### WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, the Waynesboro Congregation will have a Lovefeast on Sunday, October 11. All are invited to come and enjoy this all day service with us.

Sister Wilma Eberly, Cor.

### HART, MICHIGAN

A special thank you to all who came to be with us during our Revival Meetings and for our Lovefeast. May God richly bless each of you.

We were all made to rejoice when a dear couple joined with the Church through baptism. Continue to remember us in your prayers and come and worship with us whenever you can.

Sister Marie Noecker

### GOSHEN, INDIANA

The Lord willing, the Goshen Congregation will be holding a ten day Revival Meeting, October 23 through November 1. Bro. Kenneth Wolf from Pine Grove, Pennsylvania will be our Evangelist.

Our Lovefeast Services will be October 31, beginning at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon and the Lovefeast at 7 P.M.

Pray for these meetings. We invite all who can to come and worship with us.

Sister Cheryl Pletcher, Cor.

## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR NOVEMBER, 1981

### DELIGHTS DELIVER

Memory Verse: Rom. 7:22 & 23

For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

Sun. 1 - Mal. 2:1-17

Mon. 2 - Mal. 3:1-18

Tues. 3 - Rom. 7:1-25

Wed. 4 - Gen. 9:1-17

Thur. 5 - Gen. 14:1-24

Fri. 6 - Gen. 32:1-16

Sat. 7 - Gen. 32:17-32

Memory Verse: Gen. 9:2

And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth, and upon every fowl of the air, upon all that moveth upon the earth, and upon all the fishes of the sea; into your hand are they delivered.

Sun. 8 - Gen. 37:1-17

Mon. 9 - Gen. 37:18-36

Tues. 10 - Gen. 42:1-20

Wed. 11 - Gen. 42:21-38

Thur. 12 - Gen. 45:1-28

Fri. 13 - Ex. 2:1-25

Sat. 14 - Ex. 3:1-22

Memory Verse: Gen. 37:22

And Reuben said unto them, Shed no blood, but cast him into this pit that is in the wilderness, and lay no hand upon him; that he might rid him out of their hands, to deliver him to his father again.

Sun. 15 - Ex. 5:1-23

Mon. 16 - Ex. 12:1-28

Tues. 17 - Ex. 12:29-31

Wed. 18 - Ex. 18:1-27

Thur. 19 - Ex. 23:1-33

Fri. 20 - Deut. 1:1-21

Sat. 21 - Deut. 1:22-46

Memory Verse: Rev. 11:17

Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.

Sun. 22 - Deut. 2:1-23

Mon. 23 - Deut. 2:24-37

Tues. 24 - Deut. 3:1-29

Wed. 25 - Deut. 5:1-33

Thur. 26 - Rev. 11:1-19

Fri. 27 - Deut. 7:1-26

Sat. 28 - Deut. 9:1-29

Memory Verse: Gen. 45:7

And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

Sun. 29 - Deut. 20:1-20

Mon. 30 - Deut. 24:6-22

Memory Verses: Ex. 3:8

And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

Ex. 18:9

And Jethro rejoiced for all the goodness which the Lord had done to Israel, whom he had delivered out of the hand of the Egyptians.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

NOVEMBER 1, 1981

NO. 21

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## MY OLD BIBLE

Anonymous

Though the cover is worn,  
And the pages are torn,  
And though places bear traces of tears,  
Yet more precious than gold  
Is this Book worn and old,  
That can shatter and scatter my fears.

This old Bible is my guide,  
'Tis a friend by my side,  
It will lighten and brighten my way;  
And each promise I find  
Soothes and gladdens the mind,  
As I read and heed it each day.

To this Book I will cling,  
Of its worth I will sing  
Though great losses and crosses be mine;  
For I cannot despair,  
Though surrounded by care,  
While possessing this blessing divine.

- Selected by Sister Helen Sweitzer

## PUTTING AWAY CHILDISH THINGS

"When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things." I Cor. 13:11.

Paul was mature. He had put away childish things. Many have not. He admonishes the Corinthians (I Cor. 3:1-3) and the Hebrews (Hebrews 5:12-14) concerning this defect in their Christian lives. They had not grown so they could be useful in the Church. They could not grasp the deeper things of God's Word nor could they teach others. Paul urges them to grow up.

There are several traits found in children which are worthy of the new Christian's imitation. Jesus says the convert must come as a small child, idealistic, trusting, forgiving and enthusiastic. This is the beginning then there is a need for ungoing maturity. A baby who does not grow is soon checked to find the cause. Christians, who do not progress beyond their babyhood, need urgent help. A child needs milk as its basic diet for a few months until he is ready for more solid food. Many Christians continue on a milk diet, although they have been in the Church for years, even decades.

The attributes found among these immature Christians show the thinking, speaking and feeling of a child. These attributes are found in the world at large. We would expect to find such attributes among those who have unsound minds, because they do not have the Holy Spirit. These things are a part of the world's understanding of life but the Christian's mind should be on a higher plane.

Children are interested in having fun. Many children think recess is the best part of the school day. Many Christians have not

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR**

**NOVEMBER 1, 1981**

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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progressed beyond that point. They are ever wanting to be entertained by the various sports programs, whether they participate or watch. How many Christians know more about their favorite sports team than they do about the Bible? This interest in sports and other recreations not only robs them of the money spent on pursuing these sports, but also of the time that could be more gainfully used. The heroes of the sports world are hardly those worthy of the Christian's adulation. They often endorse products that are unwholesome and their private lives are ungoverned by God's Word. Many sports have taken on a brutal aspect, either on the playing field or in confrontation between players and management. The Christian's recreation, which in moderation has its place, should be those games and activities enjoyed by parents and children together.

Children often have a vivid imagination which wanders into the fantastic. Their immature minds find a release from reality, which often seems plodding and uninteresting. Many adults, even Christians, also live, at least at times, in a dream world. It is an escape from the problems of today. Much of the fad and fashion of the day is based on a fantasy of beauty and appeal, that the world has created. This fantasy is promoted by the movies and television, where make-up artists and special photography create an unreal world that lures many. Following fantasy diverts the Christian from his duty of serving the present age by living and sharing the Gospel.

Another trait of children is foolishness. Immature and inexperienced children do foolish things, taking unwise chances. The Wise Man says, "Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it from him." Prov. 22:15. One of the objects of parental discipline is the elimination of this foolishness. God likewise wishes the Christian to be unencumbered by foolishness. The foolishness of the Christian is thinking he can live to please himself. Many have foolishly set aside the ordinances and commands of God. Others have made light of the purpose and authority of the Church. Others have tried to unite the Godly and ungodly into one body. There are so many kinds of foolishness that invite the Christian to have a part. It is far better for him to listen to his Heavenly Father's counsel.

The child is self-centered. Among the first words a child learns are "me" and "mine." The same self-centeredness is found in many Christians. They are willing to serve if they receive enough recognition. There are many ways this exaltation of self can be shown. It may be through disobedience or through finding faults in others. Jesus wants His followers to be like Him, not like the publicity-hungry world around them. He sought to do His Father's Will and so should we.

Christians must, like little children, come to Jesus in trust. But afterwards they must grow and mature. Are you still a babe in Christ or have you put off childish things?

## THE "FIRST PAUL"

A minister, in announcing his Scripture text, gave it as the First Epistle of Paul to Timothy. My daughter turned to me and asked where the First Paul was. This lengthy introduction confused her and to her, the entire meaning was lost. We all have a tendency to complicate things by saying too much. Then in our "wordy" explanations and descriptions, the meaning is lost or clouded over and no one gets the message. A simple and uncomplicated approach is always the best, for it is more easily understood.

When sharing with someone about Christ or from God's Word, it is especially important to keep it simple. A lengthy speech or one with a lot of fancy phrases does more to add to their confusion than it helps. Did you ever ask a question and receive every answer except the one you really needed? This happens because your question was not understood. Especially when talking about spiritual things, be sure you understand any questions asked. Otherwise you may give a long explanation, only to discover you haven't answered the question at all.

Your thoughts must be in tune with the other person's need of the moment so you can begin sharing on the level of that person's understanding. You can't show anyone the next step unless you know where that person is now. To really be helpful, you must follow the other person's thoughts and have an understanding of what he or she is searching for. For example, a discussion of prophecy is out of place when a person doesn't yet know what Jesus came to this earth for. Once salvation is understood, then you can go into the principles of Christian growth and other subjects.

Wherever you begin, whatever the subject, keep your discussion simple and easy to understand. Limit the amount of Scripture given to what can be absorbed. Giving someone all the Scriptures on a given subject all at once is like insisting someone eat a whole day's food at one meal. It is absolutely overwhelming. It helps, too, to use few words, not many. Big words, long phrases and thoughts tend to disguise the real meaning and you will soon lose the interest of the one listening.

Legal documents are noted for their complicated wording; they also cause confusion. Confusion in Christian teaching can be avoided by keeping it short, sweet and simple. Don't merely be blunt as bluntness is too much like a club — more destructive than helpful. What you say is not what does the convincing — the Holy

Spirit does that — but what you say can discourage and turn people away from God. It is important to be careful and to approach people with kindness.

"The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple." Psalms 119:130. We must not darken the light nor hinder someone's understanding of God's Word. Making the plan of salvation complicated or adding our own personal notions about it clouds the truth and causes confusion, but the simple truth leads to understanding. We must be careful to keep the Scriptures in their context also. If we take verses out of context, we can make the Bible say almost anything, thus again clouding the true message.

"That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive. But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ." Ephesians 4:14-15. There are those who wish to deceive others and for this reason make long, involved speeches full of distorted facts. We, who wish only to give the truth, must be careful to get the facts straight so we don't deceive someone unintentionally. Every follower of Christ should be able to give a clear-cut, factual reason for his faith, not some vague thoughts which leave a seeker even more confused.

"Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein." Luke 18:17. Christ expects us to have a simple, child-like faith in Him. To a child, things are as they are; he doesn't complicate life, nor is he like a doubting Thomas. Our faith should likewise be simple and wholehearted, not shaky and unstable. An unstable believer causes much confusion in the mind of an unbeliever.

Jesus encouraged the rich young ruler to have faith — to sell all he had and give it to the poor, thus placing himself entirely in the Lord's care. He had to get rid of his earthly treasure, where his heart was, before he could give his heart to Christ. After this, Jesus said he was to come and follow Him (Matthew 19:16-22). Service always comes after faith, not before. If we encourage someone to keep the commandments before they have faith enough to give themselves wholly to Christ, we are confusing them, and possibly deceiving them into thinking good works bring salvation.

Paul taught those things which concerned Jesus Christ (Acts 28:31). He didn't preach any personal notions or anything to cause confusion, but he stuck to the central theme of Christ and Him crucified. That must be our message, given simply, yet completely. Take time to think it over, to consider another's need, then share Christ's message of love with someone today.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## THE CHILDREN'S PAGE

### "PROUD OF IT"

Luke 18:9-14

Did you know that people can be proud of their religion. God does not like pride in anything. He even hates a proud look. When Jesus was here as a man, there was a religious group called, "Pharisees." They were very strict about keeping the law of Moses. They had lawyers who interpreted the law and were very precise about living it to the letter. They also had many traditions which were misinterpretations of the law and Jesus said that by their traditions they had made the law of none effect. Lawyers in that day weren't any better than those of today. They weren't really seeking the truth but only honor for themselves. If a man disobeyed the Law of Moses and they could prove him innocent by stretching the law or winning a point by being a better orator than another, they could care less.

Jesus told about two men who went up into the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee and the other a publican. The publicans were the tax collectors for the Roman government, which at that time controlled the land of Palestine and the Jewish nation. To enrich themselves the publicans often charged more tax than was legal. The Jews hated them exceedingly. Anyone who was a Jew and would lower himself to be a tax collector was classed as the worst of sinners.

The Pharisee who went to the Temple was a proud man. He was rich and I suppose he was dressed in the best of clothes. He stood in the temple and prayed to himself, "God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers or even as this publican. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all I possess." This man sure thought a lot of himself, didn't he? He was telling God all about the good things in his life, which God knew anyway but he didn't mention one thing that he did that wasn't good. The Bible says that all men have sinned and I'm sure this Pharisee would be included. When he mentioned that he was glad he wasn't like the publican, he was judging a man of whom he knew little or nothing.

The publican was standing afar off from the Pharisee; probably at the rear of the temple. Jesus said he didn't so much as lift his eyes to Heaven but smote upon his breast saying, "God be merciful to me a sinner."

I don't think this publican had been a very good man but he realized that he was a sinner and implored God to forgive him and be merciful unto him. Who is it that doesn't need the mercy of God? The Pharisees, according to his understanding, was a pretty

good man but he was so proud of it that he despised a fellow man of whom he knew very little.

Jesus said the publican went down to his house justified rather than the Pharisee; "for everyone that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted."

No one has anything of his own to boast about. God has done so much for us and we so little for Him. "God resisteth the proud but giveth grace to the humble." We should judge our own lives but not others.

Brother Rudy Cover

## 1981 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

Continued from October 15, 1981 Issue

Second Speaker: Elder David Skiles. The Issues of Life. Prov. 4:23.

A very short verse but it is talking about you and I. The Lord has a message for each one of us. The Brethren have been speaking to us about the issues of life. That is very proper for we can be like the proverbial ostrich which buries its head in the sand when the storm comes. That is the easy way out. It is my experience that when I really face the issues of life that is when progress is made. When they cannot be faced we are like a stalled automobile.

The Bible speaks of a stalled ox but maybe we can better understand a stalled automobile in this age. We have a vast network of interstate highways that ties the land together. It is a marvel of modern engineering technology. For this to be effective, the traffic must keep moving. The issues of life are serious matters and sometimes we become like a stalled automobile. Sometimes when traveling we see those along the side of the road with a breakdown. They have had to face the issues of life. When the car stops, they can't go any farther so they have to make repairs. From time to time we have to stop likewise. It is not good for us to become a stalled automobile in the center of life. We must make repairs. Conference is a good time to gather to refresh ourselves and encourage one another.

My heart goes out to God's people today. I realize that we are living in difficult times. As time goes on there are more pressures on the people of God. There are financial problems. There are problems with besetting sin. Problems ensnare and entrap us and cause us to turn away from the things that we ought to be doing and they cause our journey to be avoided. We can not follow through with the plan and purposes that God has for us. As we think of the issues of life, we must realize that God is concerned about the issues of life. God hasn't just left it all up to us. I believe

that God has a will for us and He has a blueprint for us. He has a blueprint for each of us, after He made us He threw the blueprint away. He made us all different. We all have different concerns and abilities. As we journey on the great interstate of life we find different ones will get stranded differently. Some will be stranded on the mountain peak while another will be stranded in the valley. They will not be able to go through. They will find themselves Spiritually and morally stranded. I believe that it doesn't need to be that way. I believe that we need to be like a mighty, marching, victorious army. With God's help we can be. Even the best of people have found themselves stranded on the highways of life. But for the grace of God I would not be here today. Without His grace and mercy and the prayers of the saints I don't believe I would have made it this far.

We have a terrible enemy. It seems so often when we have a victory on one front that Satan attacks us from the rear. It works that way in the Church and the Spiritual realm of life. When there is victory and the Church is growing, then Satan will attack on another front. The issues of life should be a great concern to us and something that we should look into God's Word about and prepare ourselves to face the issues of life.

Our text says to keep the heart with all diligence for out of it are the issues of life. It speaks of the seriousness of life and of making decisions and choices. We do these things every day, possibly without giving very much thought to it. When traveling the interstate system, we get out a map to plan the best route. It should be more so as we think of the issues of life. There are alot of choices to make and even the best of God's people have to face them. We might think those who have had alot of experience aren't faced with the issues of life.

Elijah was a prophet of God. He was a believer. He was like us. He loved and respected God. He wanted to walk in the ways of the Lord. He challenged the priests of Baal on Mount Carmel. You would think that he would be in control of everything after that. But that was the time he met his deepest discouragement. It was after that that he went into his deepest despondency. God has a wonderful care over those who face despondency and discouragement. Many here have problems and burdens. Until those personal problems are taken care of there can not be any outward sharing of the Gospel. In order to help our Brother we must be in control of the issues of life. We have to be in control of those things that can break us down or cause us to be a stalled automobile.

After Ahab told Jezebel about the slaying of the priests of Baal, she in fury pronounced her death sentence on Elijah. Right then he became despondent. He fled for his life. He called on God to

take his life. It would seem after his great victory that he would be ready for the next one but he wasn't. The Evil One did with him as he often does with us. We all can feel like Elijah felt. We are all faced with the issues of life and the sorrows and troubles that life brings to us. Sometimes we might even ask God to take away our life. Elijah felt he might as well be in the grave with his fathers.

Elijah fled from the presence of the Lord. He went out in the wilderness. He was without food for a long time. He was sustained by an angel, who urged him to be ready for a rigorous journey. He went to the top of the mountain. When the Lord met him there He questioned him why he was there. It is possible for God's people to be in the wrong place. We think with the Bible and the Spirit, it couldn't happen to us. The Bible says that he that thinketh he standeth should take heed lest he fall. We should all take warning from this.

Not a one of us could stand without God's grace. We could not face the problems of life nor be a blessing. It was God's plan to extend grace and mercy to mankind from the very beginning. Even though today is the Age of Grace, His grace was manifested in Egypt and other times to His people. He sent them deliverance from bondage. In order for that to take place there are certain things that we must do. We must realize that there is hope and that God is compassionate. There is no tender loving care like the Lord's. No one cares for me like Jesus. If you have troubles today, if you feel like hiding in a cave and hiding your face in a mantle like Elijah, remember no one cares for you like Jesus.

His name has been exalted and His goodness upheld. It is through the name of Jesus that you can have a great name in the eyes of God. He gave Abraham a great name because he trusted in God. You can have a great name as you trust God fully, as you learn to keep your heart with all diligence and realizing that out of it are the issues of life. God's people do get in wrong places and it brings in things that are not good. Elijah was in a wrong place. God still had a work for Elijah to do but he went into a cave and covered his head with his mantle. Again God spoke to him. God was trying to get Elijah to face the issues and not run away. We can't run away from the issues of life. Despite the difficulties we must do it. It is like the farmer with a load of hay coming to a long covered bridge. There was just a little light at the other end. He turned about because he didn't think his load would fit in that small area at the other end. Too many people make the same mistake spiritually. We can never see the opening at the other end with the natural eye. With God's help we can go as far as God wants us to go. God can enable us to do all He wants us to do. He enabled Elijah to go down and finish the work He had for him to do. After this he was to anoint a king over Israel, a king over Syria and a

prophet to follow him. God still has work for us to do, He does not want us to be sidetracked by the issues of life. Let us face the issues of life, let us journey on and not be God's people in the wrong places.

Abraham was a great servant of God. He is known as the father of the faithful. God called him out of Ur of Chaldees. He went out willingly. When he came to the promised land there was a famine. This was an issue of life. Famines often were the result of God's judgment. Perhaps some of the issues of life that we face are God's judgments. He brings them not to destroy us, but to build us up so with spiritual eyes we can see to the end of the tunnel and realize that with His help we can make it. Abraham was under trial and temptation. He went to the promised land and there found famine. That doesn't sound much like a promised land, does it? He went down to Egypt and forsook the place of blessing.

Have you considered where God's place of blessing is for you? Many who have faced trials have found their greatest blessings in the midst of those trials. At the darkest time, the light shone the brightest. There is nothing to compare with the western sky away from the cities. It is the darkest yet the stars are the brightest. God's love shines the brightest in the darkest of nights. Job felt the darkness around him. He could not understand why the troubles came on him. But he realized that through his trial he would be purified like gold. God uses the issues of life. They look bad to us but He means them for our good. Let's keep this in mind. God can see the way through the end of the tunnel when we can't. We don't know what the future holds but we know Who holds the future.

We could speak of many others who faced trials and sometimes were in wrong places. This is the important warning that we be sure we are in the right place. When God's people get in the wrong place then the issues of life are going to catch up with them. Then there is going to be a price to pay. Lot forsook the place of blessing, Abraham's household. The plain of Jordan looked so good. We sometimes are not satisfied with the choice God has for us. Perhaps we are not satisfied to walk within the principles the Bible upholds and the Church upholds. This is a serious thing. Is straying away the place of blessing? God can't bless us out there beyond the borders. Materialism looks good to us today. We must open our eyes and see what materialism is doing to God's people. When God's people get out into the fields of materialism it is going to damn their spiritual lives. This was Lot's problem when he pitched his tent toward Sodom.

Jonah was a prophet of God. When God called him to go to Ninevah, he fled toward Tarshish. He forsook the place of blessing. His place of blessing was Ninevah.

When God took Israel into the Promised Land, He told the

leaders to set up borders. Those borders contained the place of blessing. Within the borders of the counsels of God is our place of blessing today. It is only there that God can bless us. That is what we want. We stretch our hands to Him but we are God's people in wrong places and God can not bless us there. Israel was told that as long as they stayed within their borders that their crops would grow, their cattle would multiply and they would be safe.

To be in God's will does not guarantee that all will be rosy. But to be in the wrong place will mean that they will lose what blessing He has for them. This is automatic. This is a divine principle. When you step out of God's will for your life and you make your own blueprint you will lose His blessing for you. Young people often want more freedom so they leave the home and parents which is their place of blessing. To obey your parents and to be under their protection is that place of blessing for you young people.

When God heard Israel's cry down in Egypt He sent them a deliverer, which was His blessing for them. When they left Egypt, they spoiled the Egyptians which was one of God's blessings. But after going a ways, they began to murmur and lost their blessing. They were in the place of self-pity and murmuring. This is always a bad place to get into. There are many other things we can get into that will destroy our place of blessing. Instead of these things we need love and compassion in the Church. That will bond us together. When we see a Brother fall, are we going to stomp on him or are we going to try to help him up? Let us remember that when God set upon the rock of the Lord Jesus Christ and He bought us with a great price that He did not make a mistake. He knew what He was doing when He called us out of a world of sin. We make mistakes not God, so we can not blame Him for the predicaments we get ourselves into. The only way we can reclaim our blessing is to come to the Lord in repentance. Was our repentance at our conversion enough? Was one time enough? We must have repentant hearts every day so we aren't destroyed by the issues of life.

David committed a great sin. But to the same degree that he sinned, he also repented. It was not a little light hearted thing. Repentance brought him back to the place of God's blessing. It is the same way with us today. We are all individuals. We all must face the issues of life. We all have sinned. Some are down hearted and discouraged. If all will follow this principle of restoration through repentance, that all can see the end of the tunnel again, life can be worth living. You can walk with the Lord like Abraham did after he learned some of these lessons. We have to be careful to not be God's people in wrong places. Even if we are in the right place there still may be discouragements and problems, but there is no use having more than what are necessary. Sometimes we

bring things upon ourselves.

The Bible says that God has chosen us. We are His chosen people today. We are chosen to be sanctified. He makes no mistakes in our lives. God writes with a pen that never blots. He speaks with a tongue that never slips. He acts with a hand that never fails. If we will trust the Lord and seek His will for our lives and not look at the Plains of Jordan, then this can be a reality. It will not be a reality in our lives until we have set the issues of life straight, until we have set our heart right with God. There are some things that we know are God's plan for us all. To be saved and to be in some field of His service. He will bring these things to pass if we give Him a chance, if we do not get in the wrong places. We will be in the place of blessing.

Closing: Elder Eugene Kauffman.

As we travel the interstate of life, it is absolutely necessary that we stop and maintain the vehicle.

To be continued.

## THE BOOK OF LIFE

I often think of the book each one of us is having recorded each day. It is a page in the diary of our life, that our blessed Master records daily. Only you or I can write upon these pages. It is the deeds we do each day. I am sure the record will be true for Christ makes no mistakes. Oh, let us be on our guard and be careful how we live. The Bible tells us nobody knows when He will come for His own, so we do not know when the last page will be written, but if we live for Christ, we don't need to worry.

Will these pages contain something that we have done that is uplifting? Let us try to make this life worthwhile. Then when this diary is completed and probably yellow with age, we can look back as we review the deeds we have done while here below, knowing that on the desk of eternity the book of our lives will be opened and we then will know how we stand before our Blessed Redeemer.

Dear Lord, help me each day as I journey toward that Eternal City to include in that diary a compassion for others, love and pity for those who are lost and those who once loved Thee but have gone back into the world of sin. Help us not to be so engrossed in reaching that blessed home, that we fail to hear the faint, far cry of some lost soul. Let us not forget that we also were lost till Jesus came and made us whole. I pray that I may so live that I can be a lifeline, to lead many a dear soul to find the Saviour. Then when we come to life's end here below and that last page of this book of life is completed, we will be able to hear from our blessed Lord, "Well Done."

Sister E. M. Alltus

## ARE YOU READY TO MOVE?

The "house" which we have occupied for many years is in need of many repairs. We are advised to be ready to move. At first this was not a very pleasant thought. The surroundings here are in many respects very pleasant, and, were it not for the evidence of decay, we should consider our house good enough. But even a light wind causes it to tremble and totter, and all the bracing we can do to strengthen it is not sufficient to make it secure. So we are getting ready to move.

It is strange how quickly one's interest is transferred to the prospective home. We have been consulting maps of the new country and reading descriptions of its inhabitants. A beloved friend who has visited it has returned, and from him we have learned that it is beautiful beyond description. Speech cannot express what he has heard and seen while he was there. He says that in order to make an investment there, he has suffered the loss of all things that he owned here. And he even rejoices in what others would call making a sacrifice. Our dear Friend, whose love to us has been proven by the greatest possible test, is now there. He has sent us several clusters of the most delicious fruits. After tasting them, all food here is tasteless.

Two or three times we have been down by the border of the river that forms the boundary, and we have wished ourselves among the company of those who were singing praises to the King on the other side. Many of our friends have already moved there. Before leaving, they spoke of our coming later. We have seen the smile upon their faces as they passed out of sight. Often we are asked to make some new investments here, but our answer in every case is, "We are getting ready to move."

Dear Readers, let us not make our home here too permanent, because when our Master calls, we want to be ready to move. Let us remember that we have here no abiding city — yonder is our home. "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." II Cor. 5:1.

With love and desire for a "better home."

Selected from The Vindicator by  
Brother Willard Beam



Every human being should have three homes: a domestic home, a church home, and an eternal home.

## OBITUARY

### BERTHA LIGHT

Sis. Bertha Jane Light, daughter of Robert and Clara Swailes, was born July 10, 1892 near Greencastle, Pennsylvania. She passed away August 9, 1981. She has been in declining health for many years.

She was united in marriage to Jacob Roy Light on December 19, 1916. To this union was born one daughter, Mrs. Kyle (Mary) Reed and one son, John, both of Minburn, Iowa.

In the Spring of 1917 they started farming near Clarence, Iowa where they farmed until 1924 when they moved to a farm near Zearing, Iowa.

Early in life she was baptized into the Church of the Brethren. In 1937 they united with the Dunkard Brethren Church of Dallas Center. In 1938 they moved to a farm east of Minburn so the family would be near the Church.

Bertha served the Church faithfully as a Deacon's wife and Sunday School teacher. Her chief concern in life was her Church and her family.

Her husband, Roy, preceded her in death in June, 1957. She is survived by her two children, twelve grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and many friends.



## NOT AN EARTHLY CHANGE

A sculptor may take a piece of rough marble, and work it into the marvelous figure of a man; yet it remains but lifeless marble. A jeweler may take a watch, the mainspring of which is broken; he may clean every wheel, cog, pin and hand, the face and the cases, but, unless the mainspring is rectified, it will all be useless for time-telling. A painter may decorate the outside of a pest-house with the most beautiful colors, but, if he produces no change within, it remains a pest-house still. A pauper might clothe himself with the garments of a millionaire, but a beggar he would still remain. A leper might cover all the spots of his disease with his garments, but, he would be a leper still. So the sinner may turn over a new leaf, and reform in all the externals of his life, but unless he is born again, born of the Spirit, a sinner he still remains.

## MARRIAGE

### EBERLY - KEGERREIS

Sister Mary Eberly, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Amos Eberly, Lititz, Pennsylvania and Bro. Dean Kegerreis, son of Bro. and Sis. David Kegerreis, Bethel, Pennsylvania were united in marriage, June 27, 1981 at the Lititz Dunkard Brethren Church. The couple will reside at R. 1, Box 835, Newmanstown, Pennsylvania 17073.

## NEWS ITEMS

### IMPORTANT REMINDER

The subscription price of the Bible Monitor increased to \$2.00 per year, October 1, 1981. Please remember this when renewing or ordering a new subscription. Thank you.

### PLEASANT HOME, CALIFORNIA

The Pleasant Home Congregation plans, the Lord willing, to hold a revival November 6 through 15. Bro. Fred Pifer of Adel, Iowa is to be the Evangelist.

Our Lovefeast will be held the evening of November 14.

Please come and enjoy these meetings with us.

Sister Edyth Kline, Cor.

### MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The new address of Elder Ray S. Shank is Mt. Hope Old Folks Home, R. 3 Box 312, Manheim, Pennsylvania 17545. This information should also be updated in your directory of information in the February 1, 1981 issue.

### APPRECIATION

I wish to thank those who remembered us with cards, letters of encouragement and prayers in the past. I believe the Lord will bless those who keep up good works. As for Sister Margaret, she is being treated with physical and speech therapy. She is starting to talk some and her physical movement is improved some. I have a bad case of arthritis and was forced to quit my part-time farm work. We ask the continuation of your prayers in our behalf.

Brother J. F. Marks

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

NOVEMBER 15, 1981

NO. 22

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## A PRAYER OF THANKFULNESS

O Lord, I thank Thee for the light  
That placed this great world in my sight;  
I thank Thee for its fruit and flowers  
Its peaceful night, its sunny hours;  
For Truth that bids me quence the tear  
And frees my mind from doubt and fear.  
I thank Thee for each breath of air;  
For all life's pleasures 'midst its care;  
For strength through struggling as I rove;  
For hope that lights my path with love.  
I thank Thee for each friend sincere  
Who makes me glad that I am here;  
For all the good I hold and give.  
Each day I thank Thee that I live!

Rosa Danielewicz

## FOR THIS WE ARE THANKFUL

At this time of year it is our habit to think of the various things for which we are thankful. Although we acknowledge our dependence upon God many times, yet at this season we are more liable to express our thanks.

It is impossible to answer the question, "For what are you most thankful?" There are several realms in our lives and within each there are some very important things for which we are especially thankful. It would be impossible to list one above all others. In the Spiritual realm we are thankful for God and His creative and sustaining power, for Jesus Christ and His redemptive and mediative service and for the Holy Ghost and His directive and strengthening qualities. We are also thankful for the Bible, the Church, the ministers, the deacons, the teachers and for each believer with whom we can fellowship. In this land we can be thankful for the privileges we have of availing ourselves of these things. In the natural realm, we are thankful for life and our health and right use of our minds. We should be thankful for the necessities of life, food, drink, clothing and shelter, that are so readily available to all. Our thanks should be offered for our families, neighbors and friends. The list would be endless if we endeavored to write down all that we have which God has provided for us.

Our expressions of thanks are very small compared to the enormity of the gift given. Perhaps we are tempted to not offer any thanks because our praise seems so inadequate. In reality, there is nothing that mortal man can do that approaches the giving of God.

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### THE BIBLE MONITOR

### NOVEMBER 15, 1981

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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Our best efforts come far short of His least provision for us, but we must not refuse to give even that little praise that we are capable of. He continually desires our service and praise however deficient it may appear in comparison to His gifts. We are to give what is within our power to give. Our Creator well understands what our limits are.

The obvious blessings which we receive are easy to recognize and to give thanks for. However in the midst of such a large outpouring of blessings, we may come to take them for granted. When we have so much, it may be difficult to be thankful for anything more.

These blessings are common and quite obvious to us. These things are good things that we welcome into our lives. But not all our blessings are so obvious. Many of the conditions that come into our lives hardly cause us to be thankful. It is easy to be thankful for the good things. Can we be thankful for those things that are not so desirable? Often the unwanted condition will in turn turn out to be a blessing even if at present it is not.

Perhaps we can compare these unlikely blessings with the experience of many school children. While in school, children often dislike the strict teacher, while they like the lenient and lax teacher. In later life they look back and realize that the unpopular, unyielding teacher was the one who had helped them the most. It is not the easy and the popular course that yields the proper results. In life there are sorrows and trials that come unbidden and unwanted, but yet these times, if rightly used, can be the means for advancement in the Spiritual life. They are to prove our true mettle and they provide us with the opportunity to depend upon God for His provision in the midst of our trial. As we learn to depend upon Him in these times we also learn to draw closer to Him. There is no better place for us than being close to God. Even the best of good times can not compare with closeness to God, whether in good or bad times.

When life seems distressing or even just dull, our persistence is needed. If we remain faithful, then God will be near to help us through the difficult time. At the time of the distress there does not seem to be anything in it to be thankful for, but later, looking back, we can realize that God had some purpose in the situation. When the Apostle Paul tells us to be thankful for all things, he does not exclude even these unpleasant times. If God means it for our good then we should be thankful for whatever it turns out to be. Even when the situation seems to be as bad as it can get, we can always be thankful that it is no worse than what it is. We can always find someone else who is in worse condition than we are. So there always is something to be thankful for, if we will look for it.

At this season, we should be very thankful for all that has been entrusted to us by God. We should be thankful that God cares enough to provide many visible blessings. We should also be thankful for the invisible blessings. In this Thanksgiving season, are you truly thankful for all He has given you?

## **SEEKING FIRST THE KINGDOM**

In Matthew 6:33 we read, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

First of all we have to define what "the kingdom" is. As a side light, some see a difference between the "kingdom of God" and the "kingdom of Heaven." From our study of scripture we have come to the conclusion that these are synonymous terms. This kingdom is of a spiritual nature rather than of a material one for we read in Romans 14:17, "For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost."

While we feel it is wrong for a Christian to knowingly destroy or misuse the blessings God has given us for our use, we feel that to get overly concerned about pollution, our natural resources, nuclear energy, and other environmental issues is not to seek first the kingdom. We feel the sixth chapter of Matthew speaks on this very thing. Also in II Peter 2:10 we read, "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." The Christian is ultimately looking forward to the new heaven and the new earth as described by John in Revelation 21:1, "And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea." We feel the "heaven" spoken of here speaks of the natural heaven, moon, stars, and so forth, and not of God's dwelling place.

There are also those whom we can not be sure whether they are politicians or preachers. They would have you involve yourself with this world system. Their answer to problems of morality is good government leaders and good legislation. While we believe that God is pleased with leaders who have good morals and we believe that there is a need for laws for the unregenerate, we do not believe that such is seeking the kingdom of God. In John 17:16 we read, "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world." Although Christ was speaking about the disciples at this point we believe that verse 20 of this passage shows that this would include all Christians.

Along this same line of thought, many put their trust in weapons

and military strength. Again, this is not seeking first the kingdom. In John 18:36 we read, "Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence." Two things should be noted concerning this passage. First, Christ, himself, said "if the kingdom were of this world" then his servants would fight. Therefore, we feel it is wrong for Christians to tell governments to practice pacifism. On the other hand, some try to say that this passage only relates to those in this given situation. In other words, Christ had to die to save the world. While this is true, the verse clearly states, "but now is my kingdom NOT FROM HENCE."

The number of those who name the name of Christ and follow the fashions of this world seems to be increasingly growing in number. The biblical command of modesty seems to be "out of style" for many. They "thump their Bibles" and claim to believe every word therein, but their dress contradicts their statement of faith! Men and women sometimes wear shorts, men appear in long hair and women cut their hair. Prayer veils are unthought of. We have to ask, "Are they truly seeking first the kingdom?"

The conservative churches and individuals have to be careful too. When we become judgmental in our attitude rather than lovingly desiring the best for the family of God we are not seeking first the kingdom. Also when we become that "holy" that we feel we need no improvement in OUR LIVES we are no longer seeking first the kingdom.

Let each of us search our lives and hearts so that we may truly seek first the kingdom. Let us allow Jesus Christ to become king of our lives. May our desire to bring honor and glory, (not shame) to HIS NAME bring us under subjection to His holy word, the Bible.

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078

## THANKSGIVING DAY

First, let us look on the civil side of the subject. "A day set apart each year by executive authority, for public thanksgiving and praise to God", Webster. Let us meditate on this definition a moment. "By executive authority," the law of the land. "Set apart" especially for a certain purpose, separate from all other purposes. "Thanksgiving and praise to God," are we law-abiding citizens?

Now, may we turn to God's law? "Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase." Prov. 3:9.

"Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High." Psa. 50:14. Honor the Lord with some of the blessings which God has given us? The firstfruits, not what is left over that we do not want. Offer and pay our vows unto God. This must be done in a prayerful spirit, reverently submitting ourselves to God.

"Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving." Col. 4:2. "Continue", how much time do we spend in prayer? While in prayer, do we concentrate upon what we are doing? Meditate with thanksgiving, a fine attitude of mind, a satisfying and pleasing attitude to engage in.

I feel a good summary on how to observe Thanksgiving, not only one day but the season is in Psa. 105:1-3. "O give thanks unto the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the people. Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him: talk ye of all his wondrous works. Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the Lord." Can you occupy this season in any better way? May we individually consider giving thanks? Do I feel I have sufficient reason to give thanks unto God? Do I find joy in being thankful? Do I consider it a privilege to give thanks? Do I feel it my duty to praise God with thanksgiving?

Now re-read this last scripture. Do you think you can find enough to do on Thanksgiving Day? What kind of a day would this be, in our land, if we all did our best to observe it according to this Scripture? What a joyful day, yes, if all professing Christians really put forth their best to observe this day.

Brother Howard J. Surbey  
Littlestown, Pennsylvania 17340

## **A THANKSGIVING PRAYER**

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name." Psalms 100:4. Prayer is our means of communication with God, of telling Him what our burdens and desires are. When we approach Him in prayer, it should be in an attitude of heartfelt thankfulness, for prayer and true thanksgiving go together. God has been good to us, He has blessed us abundantly and the least we can do is thank Him sincerely.

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Phil. 4:6. Even in the most miserable situations, we can find something to be thankful for — if we look for it. It surely must make the Lord sad when we come before Him whining over our misfortunes like spoiled children. If we are not thankful for what

we've already received we ought to be ashamed to ask for anything else.

David was a thankful man, and he made sure his people were aware of its importance. In I Chron. 16, we are told how he appointed certain Levites to thank and praise the Lord before the Ark. At this time, David himself delivered a psalm of thanks which began with "Give thanks unto the Lord, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people." He had something for which he was very thankful and he led the people in praising the Lord. There was a time set aside both morning and evening for prayer and thanking the Lord (I Chron. 23:30) so thanksgiving was not a matter to be taken lightly.

Daniel is well-known for his times of prayer, especially the time when he ended up in the lion's den because of it. He knew the penalty but continued his routine of prayer. "He kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime." Dan. 6:10b. "I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers" (Dan. 2:23a) was Daniel's theme in prayer. He had made thanksgiving a part of his relationship to God. He had already experienced God's mercy and care, and he was not afraid. Would you have thanked God in such a situation?

"I thank thee, O Father" were words Jesus uttered more than once. Sometimes it was gratitude for food, other times for His disciples, or for prayer answered. If Jesus felt the need of expressing His thanks, how much more we should! God blesses us because of what Jesus has done for us and if we are ungrateful, we are taking God's mercy for granted. We don't deserve to be blessed and that is even more reason why we ought to be thankful we are blessed rather than cursed.

Paul began several of his letters to the Churches with an expression of thanksgiving. He thanked God for the faith of those in Rome (Rom. 1:8), and for the grace given to the Corinthians (I Cor. 1:4). To those at Philippi, he said, "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you." Phil. 1:3. He commended the Thessalonian Church for their growing faith and abundant love, thanking God for this. (II Thess. 1:3) In each instance, he was thankful for something specific which he pointed out. It wasn't just a "thank you, Lord, for all our blessings." When you pray, be specific in your thank-yous.

There are many expressions of thanksgiving in the Bible, nearly all of which are part of a prayer. There is one sour note in all this: the Pharisee's prayer. He said, "God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are." Luke 18:11. This man had never learned what true thanksgiving was. His only thought was for himself, in direct

contrast to Paul's thankfulness for other people and for God's blessings on them. Surely God is pleased when we are grateful enough to express our appreciation, not only for our own blessings but also for what others receive.

Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday set apart for giving thanks to God. It is now referred to by many as "Turkey Day," and that is about all it means to them. They, like the Pharisee, have never learned what it means to be thankful, but instead are self-centered and ungrateful. The Pharisee was very well satisfied with himself, but his heart was far from God. Your heart cannot draw near to the Lord if you are selfish and ungrateful, but if you recognize your need of the Lord, your holiday won't be merely a "turkey day." Make your day, and your year, a time of true thanksgiving and prayer.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## **1981 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES**

Continued from November 1, 1981 Issue

### **SUNDAY EVENING**

Moderator: Elder Dale Jamison.

Chorister: Bro. John Meyers.

Opening: Elder Frank Shaffer. Psalms 103.

This Psalm begins and ends with the thought of our souls blessing the Lord. Do we do it? We don't have to be very old until we realize where our benefits come from. They come from God. As we get older we realize it even more. It is not only temporal blessings but also the Spiritual that we receive from Him. Even redemption from our sins comes from Him. We so often are forgotten. Yet they are always there. His forgiving is complete. Even the murderer and thief could be converted and preach the Gospel because he was forgiven. His benefits won't stop. We must keep on seeking His favor. If we lose these benefits it is by our own choice. The benefits we enjoy here make us look forward to eternal benefits to be enjoyed in Heaven.

First Speaker: Elder Warren Smith. Excuses. Luke 14:16-24.

When I think on this passage I am made to think that each of us has at one time or another made an excuse. We have given some reason for a shortcoming, failure or for not carrying out some activity. Even children learn to use excuses. Here some who had been bidden to an important event began to make excuses. We too have been bidden to a wonderful place, a wonderful calling, a wonderful station in life, a wonderful status, a wonderful career and a wonderful work. We have a purpose in our lives, which is to

honor, glorify and please God. Jesus said "Come unto me", giving you and I a wonderful bidding. He calls us to give Him our burdens. There is not a one of us but what has had troubles, adversities and problems. These problems find their resting place only in Jesus. He can solve these problems if we but obey Him when He says, "Come unto me."

When this man called these ones to come, he had a definite reason. He had prepared for them a wonderful supper. He would have been proud for them to attend. But what did they do? What are we doing with the command of Jesus? What is the condition of our hearts? Our attitude will get us farther than anything else in life. If a man does not care about a certain thing he will not give it much attention. If a man cares about it he will talk about it and work at it industriously. These men showed their attitude by refusing the invitation. Whatever excuses we make shows our attitude about a thing. Are we making excuses about sacred things?

What if Jesus had made excuses? If He had asked the Father to excuse Him, where would we be? It was because of His love and concern for His Creation. Are we making excuses for not following Him or for not keeping His commandments? He said that if you love me you will keep my commandments. Can we make light of His blood and expect to receive the Reward? He that makes light of the Son of God shall not be guiltless. They will receive a sorer punishment who have trodden the Son of man under their feet. Can we give any valid reason for not obeying the Word of God? There will be no valid excuse that can be offered at the judgment bar. Matt. 7:21-23. Vandals at a school did their damage that they might get their "kicks." Some do far worse things than this yet they claim to be a child of God. What excuse can they give?

The bidden ones had salved their own feelings by giving their excuses but they had forgotten about the feelings of the man who invited them. He cared for them or he wouldn't have gone to the trouble and expense of preparing that meal for them. They made light of it. Today we see so many in the world who make light of the commandments of Jesus Christ. To claim to believe and obey the Word of God is not enough. Many deny the need of the prayer covering and feet washing. There are other doctrines that we need to stand for just as strongly. Many deny the need for baptism but how can we excuse it when Jesus gave it in the Great Commission? Excuses can be dangerous when it comes to failing in carrying out the commands found in the Word of God.

If Jesus is the head of the Church, the Church will follow Him. If you remove the head from the natural body, what do you have? A

corpse! Jesus is the head and we are part of the body. Is there any excuse we can offer when He has commanded us to follow? We have tried to excuse ourselves when we have strayed from the Church. But there is no excuse for it.

The one who had bought land wanted to be excused to go look at it. But who ever bought land without first looking at it? It was an excuse. Who ever bought a tractor or a car without first looking it over and trying it out? Did their excuses stand? What are we using as excuses for not following the Lord? Not enough time, too busy. We are so wrapped up in the affairs of this world that we don't have time.

No time for God  
But time for play.  
Time for dance and shows  
Time for pinochle and bridge  
Time for luncheons and politics  
Time for Sunday golf and baseball  
Time for newspapers and funnies  
Time for novels and magazines  
Time for fashions and radio  
Time for television and gardening  
Time for parties and parades  
Time for everything under the sun  
Except for God.  
And afterwhile when you need God  
And need Him badly  
Will He have time for you.

Can we make excuses and expect it to work? It did not work for Moses. It did not work for Adam. Not at all. It did not keep Adam from paying the penalty. He had done what God had told him not to do. Excuse ever since then has had a part in man's life. Man is ever trying to justify himself. What will a man give in exchange for his soul? He that exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted. Men are going to give an account of even their idle words in the judgment.

He cares for each and everyone of us. May we put our cares on Him. Moses was the meekest man in the earth but he became the strongest because he put away his excuses. He obeyed God. Aaron had given in to the people and made the golden calf. Are we influenced by the people around us? This did not excuse Aaron. Nor will it make a valid excuse for us. Saul did not wait for Samuel to offer the sacrifice. His excuse was that Samuel tarried too long. His end was disastrous. If we do not wait upon the Lord we too can lose eternity.

Heaven is an extraordinarily beautiful place. Are our excuses costing us eternal life. What can I do to inherit eternal life? What do I lack? These are our concerns. Could it be because of our excuses? Rather than making excuses let us yield to Him. Excuses have cost more than one soul getting to Heaven. How terrible when we realize one soul is worth more than the whole world. Let us yield so we may have a part in that Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

To be continued.

## **SIGNS OF THE TIMES**

Dear friends, time is running out. We are in the end times and the clock is ticking off the last days before the return of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. In Matthew 23:37-39, we are taught, "But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and they knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."

Before Jesus comes back to earth in glory certain things must happen. These events are happening now! We are beginning to see the time of sorrow. Conditions will grow worse and worse until Jesus will come in glory to reign on the earth.

As we look at the happenings of the day, we can know that these events are just the pictures of what will happen before He returns. In our country there is a murder every twenty-three minutes, a theft occurs every four seconds, a burglary happens every eight seconds, a motor vehicle is stolen every twenty-eight seconds. There is an aggravated assault every forty-eight seconds, a robbery every fifty-eight seconds, and a forcible rape every six minutes. There are wars, rumors of wars and rampant immorality. People are living beyond their means, as is the government. Your individual share of the national debt is \$151,660.00. Truly these are troublesome days.

Famines around the world are increasing. We are told that half of the world's population goes to bed hungry every night, while the rest of us throw good food into garbage cans. The great battle of today is the battle for bread. You should understand why the communists have been able to take over so many countries. Basically, it is because of the promise of food. The famines of today are a picture of the worse ones to come after the tribulation period begins.

Then there are pestilences. In spite of all the advances in modern medicine, thousands die of dread diseases all over the

world daily. Just take the matter of cancer. It sometimes seems so hopeless when we look at that disease. But in the final days before Christ returns, pestilences will sweep the earth.

Then there are the earthquakes. In the eighteenth century 640 earthquakes were recorded. In the nineteenth century 2,119 were recorded. In the twentieth century we have experienced around sixty thousand!

Jesus spoke of how sin will abound in peoples' lives and that their love will grow cold. Do you want to see a picture of the fulfillment of that prophecy? Just look around you! Look at the sin that engulfs the world. Look at the coldness and indifference of so many so-called church members today. Apostasy abounds.

Men are in pursuit of happiness, forgetting God, forgetting that Christ is coming back to judge them. The warning is before us. We have a duty to, "Therefore be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh." Are you ready to meet Him? Have you been caught up in the turmoil of the world system? Has Satan had some victories in your life? If so, you must clean it up NOW. Eliminate the sin and worldliness and serve God with all your heart.

We are waiting in this world of sin and sorrow. But we have hope. Christ is coming again! He is coming to take us to be with Him forever in a land of endless joy. Can you say with John, "Even so, come quickly, Lord Jesus?"

Brother Leonard Wertz  
Torreon Navajo Mission

## **THE CHILDREN'S PAGE**

### **"OF SUCH IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN"**

Luke 10:13-16

Almost everyone likes little children. There is an innocence and purity about them and they have a beauty that is wonderful. Jesus said, "Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven," and "Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall not enter therein."

This gives us something to think about. How can we be like a little child? Jesus was very definite about it. There is no way we can change it. We can't get into the Kingdom of God unless we receive it as a little child.

We believe that little children are free from sin. There is no sin in Heaven and Jesus said, "of such is the kingdom of heaven." I'm

sure that little children make up a part of Heaven. Many children have died before they ever understood what sin is and they went to Heaven to be with Jesus. We read about angels called, "Cherubims" — maybe these are the ones Jesus referred to.

We must have our sins forgiven. We cannot take one sin along to Heaven. Jesus has made it possible to have our sins forgiven — we must be born again — of the water and of the spirit — believe in God — repent of our sins and be baptized for the remission of our sins and then we are promised the gift of the Holy Spirit. When we are free from sin, we are in that respect like a little child.

Little children are also dependent upon their parents. Whenever they have trouble or get hurt, they will go to mother or father. A child knows that he needs protection and care. We, as children of God, should also be dependent upon our Heavenly Father. Of ourselves we are helpless. Jesus says, "Without me you can do nothing." It is very important that we realize our dependence upon God.

When we are dependent upon God, we become humble. When we are independent and think we don't need God, we become proud and unyielding. God wants to help us and care for us, but if we will not choose to let Him, He cannot and will not receive us into His Kingdom.

The rain falls on the just and the unjust but that is only the natural blessings that God gives to everyone — the rain — the air we breath — the food we eat — the sunshine — the bodies that we live in and the many things in life that are good and beautiful.

The blessings of entering God's Kingdom of Heaven are something else. Peace of mind, the love we have for others, the hope of eternal life and the forgiveness of sins are not given to everybody. If we want these real blessings of God, we must become as a little child for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Brother Rudy Cover

## THANKSGIVING

On other days of thanks I've said,  
"Thank Thee, dear Lord, for this, my bread;  
For clothing warm, for firelight's glow,  
For loving friends — all these I know  
Are things that make my life complete —  
Good friends, a home, and food to eat;  
And so I thank Thee, Lord."

Another year, with love-lit eyes,  
I sang Thanksgiving to the skies;

"A companion's kiss, a promise made —  
No finer riches would I trade  
For this — for love's clear golden joy  
In richness outshines earth's alloy —  
And so I thank Thee, Lord."

A later year, with dreams come true —  
A baby dear, with eyes of blue —  
I humbly said, "For sending me  
This miniature of Heaven, to Thee  
A voice overfilled with thanks I raise  
In heartfelt joy to sing Thy praise;  
And so I thank Thee, Lord."

But now today my lips are still,  
No words of praise pour forth to fill  
The air with gratitude to Thee,  
For all things I can feel and see;  
My heart, instead, I open wide,  
And for the deepened faith inside  
I want to thank Thee, Lord.

For memories throughout the years,  
For days of sunshine and of tears,  
For constant love, for little things  
That mean far more than wealth of kings;  
For finding faith, and finding God  
Was with me every path I trod,  
I want to thank Thee, Lord....

- Ruth Dallwig Campbell

"Offer unto God Thanksgiving; pay thy vows unto the most High." Psalms 50:14. Why should Thanksgiving Day be only once a year? Let us make every day, Thanksgiving Day. Thank God each morning for a wonderful day, for health and vitality of body, for knowledge to do our work well, for wisdom to follow the right path ourselves and to help others. Thank God for our little children growing up in our care. Help us Father, that we might have guidance and patience enough to teach them aright. Thank God each evening for His loving care and guidance during the day, for the abundance with which we are blessed and for sharing with others.

Meditate on the beautiful things in the world... the flowers, the sunsets, beautiful scenery, the rain, the snow, the butterfly, the little things like the ant, or a playful kitten. Thank God for Christian fellowship, for His Holy Word, for the Church, for freedom of worship, for freedom of speech. Thank God for loved ones and

friends. Many of us have loved ones that have gone on to their reward. Let us be thankful to God that we did have an opportunity to be with them here in this life and have that hope of meeting again.

But most of all... "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." II Cor. 9:15. How thankful are we for God's gift? God's unspeakable gift is a rare gift indeed. The gift is none other than JESUS CHRIST.

Let us have Thanksgiving Day every day of the year!

In Christian love,  
Sister Shirley Frick  
Lewisburg, Ohio

## NEWS ITEMS

### GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Grandview Congregation enjoyed a one week revival from July 26 through August 2, with Bro. David Skiles as evangelist. Our prayer is that the Church has been strengthened.

We were happy to have so many from the other congregations come and be with us at that time.

We are few in number and appreciate members coming in to worship with us.

Sister Bertha Jarboe, Cor.

### ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

Greetings of love to each one of you! We have just enjoyed another refreshing and uplifting two week revival meeting.

The Word went forth earnestly from night to night. Souls were fed and hearts were pricked. We were happy that one who had gone astray was brought back to the fold and Laura Stump accepted Christ as her Savior. Even though young in the faith, we as a Church must keep the young Lambs in mind, in our prayers night and day; that as they go to school they might be humble and shine as a bright light in this dark and sinful world.

We were glad to have Sister Barbara and son Kenny with us during these meetings.

We pray God's blessings on Brother Kenneth Wolfe as he continues to preach God's precious Word in these last days.

Sister Shirley Frick, Cor.

Through the message of Easter we have an endless hope instead of a hopeless end.

## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR DECEMBER, 1981

### DELIVER

Memory Verse: Deut. 32:39

See now that I, even I, am he,  
and there is no God with me: I  
kill, and I make alive; I wound,  
and I heal: neither is there any  
that can deliver out of my hand.

Tues. 1 - Deut. 32:1-26

Wed. 2 - Deut. 32:27-52

Thur. 3 - Jos. 2:1-24

Fri. 4 - Jos. 7:1-26

Sat. 5 - Jos. 24:1-33

Memory Verse: I Sam. 4:8

Woe unto us! who shall deliver  
us out of the hand of these  
mighty Gods? these are the Gods  
that smote the Egyptians with  
all the plagues in the wilderness.

Sun. 6 - Jud. 2:1-23

Mon. 7 - Jud. 3:1-31

Tues. 8 - Jud. 10:1-18

Wed. 9 - Jud. 15:1-20

Thur. 10 - Jud. 16:15-31

Fri. 11 - I Sam. 4:1-22

Sat. 12 - I Sam. 7:1-17

Memory Verse: I Sam. 7:3

And Samuel spake unto all the  
house of Israel, saying, If ye do  
return unto the Lord with all your  
hearts, then put away the strange  
gods and Ashtaroth from among  
you, and prepare your hearts  
unto the Lord, and serve him  
only: and he will deliver you out  
of the hand of the Philistines.

Sun. 13 - I Sam. 10:1-27

Mon. 14 - I Sam. 12:1-25

Tues. 15 - I Sam. 14:1-26

Wed. 16 - I Sam. 14:27-52

Thur. 17 - I Sam. 17:1-31

Fri. 18 - I Sam. 17:32-58

Sat. 19 - I Sam. 23:1-29

Memory Verse: Isa. 9:6

For unto us a child is born, unto  
us a son is given: and the govern-  
ment shall be upon his shoulder:  
and his name shall be called  
Wonderful, Counsellor, The  
Mighty God, The Everlasting  
Father, The Prince of Peace.

Sun. 20 - I Sam. 24:1-22

Mon. 21 - I Sam. 26:1-25

Tues. 22 - I Sam. 30:1-31

Wed. 23 - II Sam. 22:1-25

Thur. 24 - II Sam. 22:26-51

Fri. 25 - Isa. 9:1-7

Sat. 26 - I Kings 8:44-66

Memory Verse: I Sam. 17:37

David said moreover, The Lord  
that delivered me out of the paw  
of the lion, and out of the paw of  
the bear, he will deliver me out  
of the hand of this Philistine.  
And Saul said unto David, Go,  
and the Lord be with thee.

Sun. 27 - I Kings 13:1-17

Mon. 28 - I Kings 13:18-34

Tues. 29 - I Kings 20:1-21

Wed. 30 - I Kings 20:22-43

Thur. 31 - I Kings 22:1-23

Memory Verse: I Sam. 26:24

And behold, as thy life was much  
set by this day in mine eyes, so  
let my life be much set by in the  
eyes of the Lord, and let him  
deliver me out of all tribulation.

I Kings 20:28

And there came a man of God,  
and spake unto the king of Israel,  
and said, Thus saith the Lord,  
Because the Syrians have said,  
The Lord is God of the hills, but  
he is not God of the valleys,  
therefore will I deliver all this  
great multitude into thine hand,  
and ye shall know that I am the  
Lord.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

DECEMBER 1, 1981

NO. 23

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## CONTRAST

Alice Hansche Mortenson

Doubt cries, "It is impossible!

You can't, you can't go on!"

Faith softly whispers, "Yes, you can.

Just trust in God. Be calm."

Doubt cries, "Look down! Your path is steep

And rough with stones and briar!"

Faith gently says, "I'll take your hand.

It's beautiful up higher."

Doubt has not one thing to give

But "going back" alone:

Faith has God, eternal life,

And heirship to a throne!

And so, on unseen eagle's wings,

These feet of clay are borne.

While faith within me sings and sings,

We rise above the storm!

Selected by Sister Helen Sweitzer

## A GOD OF DETAILS

Details are often frustrating. They seem so small and unimportant. We often pass over these details in our efforts to accomplish some larger project. But we all learn that these little details are important. The big project is not one large unit but a collection of many, small details.

God respects details. Throughout His Word, His instructions are given in precise detail. When Moses numbered the children of Israel, early in their wilderness journey, he was told to number the Levites separately from the other tribes. Then he was to find the number of the firstborn. When the number of Levites fell two hundred and seventy six shy of matching the number of firstborn, God gave special instructions. Since Levites were to be God's servants in the place of the firstborn, He made provision for the extra firstborn to be redeemed by paying a price. Many would have excused the difference of a mere two hundred and seventy six among so many people, but God was concerned about this detail.

Two hundred and seventy six people may seem like a detail in this age of millions and billions. But these represented, in God's sight, a redemption. Because of the price He paid for redemption, each person is of infinite value to Him.

God gave very precise details in many lengthy passages in Exodus, Leviticus and Numbers detailing His design for His earthly dwelling place. He gave Moses very specific orders that he was to follow the pattern He had given.

God was concerned with details when dealing with the children of Israel. Would it be reasonable to believe that He is still concerned with the details of our Christian lives? Many would view

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****DECEMBER 1, 1981**

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

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the Christian life as an unbounded field of freedom. While the Christian knows true freedom by being free from his sin burden, his freedom is not for his personal indulgence but that he might freely serve God. Many do not like the details that God has set in His plan for building our Christian lives. Some would say that He made the plan of salvation too detailed. They want to believe that faith only were enough, but He has drawn His plan with details that include faith, repentance and baptism.

He has set definite limits upon our lives. There are bounds placed, beyond which the Christian is not to go, nor even think of crossing. The ordinances of the House of God are detailed, symbolic, common acts that give the Christian an encouragement toward a better life. Feet washing, the Lord's Supper and the communion are among those details that will help us live for Him. Following the detailed acts of these services will bring blessing and encouragement. The other activities of the Christian life also must be followed in a detailed way. Our lives must be lived very carefully. For us to willingly set aside the detailed way of holiness would be folly. Our Spiritual life here and our eternal life beyond depends on our willingness to pay attention to details.

While some feel the Church becomes too interested in details, it is the little details brought together that determines not only the life-style of a Christian but also of the Church. If the details are not taken care of, soon the Church will find the problems within so great that they can hardly be handled. If details — little offenses — had been brought under her discipline, they would not have grown beyond their true proportion. Some things which may be seemingly trifling can grow to overwhelming size. Many problems within the Church are blamed on personality differences. Perhaps the real problem was a detail — the law of pardon or the Golden Rule were not used.

God is interested in details. He has given us details concerning the plan of salvation, the ordinances and our Christian walk of life. He wants us to use these details, not ignore them. A look at the Christian life, with its overall seriousness and importance, would be overwhelming, but when we can approach it detail by detail, we can comprehend the very things that need to be done right now. By following the details a step at a time, day by day, we will in the end have accomplished the greatest of all tasks. We will have pleased God.

Our God is a God of details. Keep close to His details for your life and He will be very close to you.

## EDUCATION

What is education? Education is the process whereby the knowledge, skill, mind and character of a person is developed. In light of God's Word it may be summed up to be the preparation for life — both for time and Eternity. The word "education" comes from a Latin word that means "to bring up, rear, or train." Education is a tool, either for God or the devil, depending on how and what is taught.

It seems today that some people have come to criticize and look down on the thought of education. However, whether we realize it or not, everyone of us is learning daily. From the cradle to the grave we are always learning. What is learned depends upon several conditions; what is being taught, where it is taught, and who is doing the teaching. We would like to focus our thoughts on the years of a child's life that we call his "formal education."

In our search for direction and guidance in educating our children, let us remember the purpose of education — preparation for LIFE. Surely The Book of Life and the Author of Life should be our source of answers for life.

The Christian view of life is the product of Divine revelation. Life for the Christian is "Life in Christ." Education alone can not produce life in Christ but if properly ordered it will produce a situation where this life can be discerned and accepted.

How should we educate our children? God has much to say about this topic in His Word. We will look at it in several divisions.

### 1. The Foundation of Education

The first step in building is to lay the foundation. Ec. 12:13, "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man." Pro. 1:7, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge." Pro. 9:10, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."

The essence of life and learning must revolve around God, His Word and His Will. Any deviation will be a failure. How can we ever hope to end right if we don't start right? The public school system of today can not fill God's plan for our children because it isn't founded on the fear of the Lord. Remember, that is the beginning of knowledge and wisdom. Without the "fear of the Lord" they have nothing in the eyes of God.

Christian education is based on truth, not on supposition, fantasy or theory. We must "let God be true and every man a liar." All teaching must be placed against the standards of God's Eternal Truth.

Paul warned us to beware of the philosophies of men. "BEWARE lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." Col. 2:8.

In the twelve years of our children's formal education, they are under the influence and teaching of someone else for approximately fifteen thousand hours. In those same twelve years, we as fathers will probably spend less than one-tenth that much time instructing our children. How can we ever expect to undo and redo all of the evil that is saturating the minds of our children in the public schools?

We can sow all the good seed we want but there will still be room for the evil seed. In Matt. 13:25, Christ gave us a parable that teaches this truth. "But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way." We can not expect our little children to wade through the swamps of sin for twelve years and come out pure, clean and unspotted. Thus, we must keep them out of this environment and place them in one that is centered around the Word of God and blessed by the presence of The Teacher, the Holy Spirit. The educator is thus a co-worker with the Holy Spirit bringing created beings to fulfillment.

God has called us to be a people separated from the world. When it comes to the instructing and educating of our children He has made a distinct separation between the way of the righteous and the way of the ungodly.

How can we teach our children that Godliness must be part of our every aspect of our lives while sending them to secular school? "Secular" is defined as "that which is indifferent to God, excluding or exempting God." How can an environment such as this fill the purpose of education — that of preparing our children for the service of the Master? It can not and it will not.

May we listen to the voice of God: "Cease, my Son, to hear the instruction that causeth thee to err from the words of knowledge." Pro. 19:27. "Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the Lord." Ps. 34:11.

Here we have the basis for education, from GOD'S point of view.

To be continued  
Brother James Meyers  
R. 1, Dallas Center, Iowa



Even if you are on the right track you will get run over if you just sit there.

## WHICH COUNTS MOST?

Which counts most — what you do on Sunday, or the other six days? We've heard it said that we need to possess on weekdays what we profess on Sunday. Christian principles were not meant to be talked about on Sunday, then forgotten on Monday. If something is a sin on Sunday, it is a sin on Monday through Saturday. It is inconsistent to maintain a double standard, but such a pattern is easy to fall into.

Standards we profess in public worship should also be our standards in everyday life, before saint and sinner alike. We are so careful to make sure we do everything right in worship, which is important, but we can't stop there. If we say all the right things and keep everything in order, then go home and forget what God expects of us, the worship is meaningless. Christian people must live Christian lives seven days a week, not just when convenient. Anything less than fulltime devotion to the cause of Christ is hypocrisy.

Sunday has been generally accepted as the Lord's Day. This means it is not our day to please ourselves, but it is our day to please God. We don't all agree on just what is acceptable and what isn't on that day, but one thing we must agree on. That which we do and profess on Sunday should be our guide throughout the week. It is a standard to live up to in all we do — at home, in business, in our leisure activities. This standard is more than what we are externally, for it soon tells where our hearts are.

Under the law, the Sabbath Day was a very special day and strictly observed. There were many rules centered on Exodus 20:8, "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy." We don't have a certain set of rules for the Lord's Day, but it does deserve respect. That respect must come from your heart, but again, your responsibility doesn't end there. When you belong to the Lord, every day of your life belongs to Him and every day needs to be lived accordingly.

An elderly, crippled woman had pulled into the wrong car wash lane, and the attendants refused to help her. She had already waited quite awhile, and they insisted she go to the rear of the automatic wash line and wait again. While the motorists behind her were honking and yelling for her to get out of their way, some young men in a van got out and washed her car for her. They refused any pay for assisting her. When she drove off, her eyes were filled with tears. The noisy complainers could only hide their faces.

It is not for me to say whether these young men were Christians or not, but the condition of the van's exterior indicated they were

not. In all the waiting vehicles, it is possible some were professing Christians. Why then was the need left in the hands of those least expected to have compassion? If you had been there, which place would you have been — in your car complaining and being rude, or helping wash the woman's car?

Inconsistency brings reproach upon the cause of Christ. Read Romans 2:23-24. "They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him..." Titus 1:16. The young men previously mentioned were not the sort whom we would expect to do a good deed, but they did it. Some of the motorcycle gangs have been known to give special help to children's charities. If they can do that, surely we who belong to the Lord can do our part and live up to our profession. We can be compassionate on Tuesday and Wednesday just as easily as on Sunday. Loving our neighbors should start at Church on Sunday and be continued on through the week.

The Pharisees were "a Jewish sect which laid great stress on strict observance of rites and ceremonies. They made a pretense of superior piety and separated themselves from the common people." Rather than commending them for all this strictness and rigid rule-keeping, Jesus said our righteousness needs to exceed theirs. If it does not, "ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven." Matt. 5:20b. No matter what they did, nor how religious and pious they appeared, it was not enough to bring them into favor with God.

"And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are." Matt. 6:5a. Might Jesus say also to us, "You shall not live as the hypocrites do?" The scribes and Pharisees looked good on the surface but Jesus said they were full of hypocrisy and iniquity. You, too, can make yourself look good but if your life says one thing and your lips another, it is certain your heart is not right with God. Jesus asked, "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" Luke 6:46. If He is your Lord, He is in charge of your life and expects you to live accordingly.

"Burning lips and a wicked heart are like a potsherd covered with silver dross." Prov. 26:23. A potsherd is a piece of earthenware or pottery. Dross is worthless impurities, the scum which forms on molten metal. A piece of pottery covered with a silvery-looking scum is only a cheap imitation of the real thing. Such is the quality of a life which appears good on Sunday and leaves you wondering where it all went on Monday. If you are consistent in living for the Lord, it will be evident everyday, but that which counts most is what you are the other six days, not what you are just on Sunday.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## LAYING ON OF HANDS

No other church that I know of, today, practices laying on of hands as is taught in the New Testament, both by precept and example.

It was an apostolic practice. Acts 8:14-17, "Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost."

Another example is the disciples at Corinth, on whom Paul laid his hands. Acts 19:5-7, "When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spoke with tongues, and prophesied. And all the men were about twelve."

Laying on of hands was one of the first principles of the doctrine of Christ. Heb. 6:1-3, "Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. And this will we do, if God permit."

It was also a general custom. I Cor. 11:2, "Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them unto you."

The apostles and elders approved it in sending Peter and John to perform it. Acts 8:14-17. The Apostles got it from Christ. Gal. 1:11-12, "But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ." I Cor. 14:37, "If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord." It was practiced in the primitive churches.

We are to keep the traditions delivered by the apostles. I Cor. 11:2; II Thess. 2:15, 3:7. The apostolic practice has never been repealed by divine authority. God conferred the Spirit in apostolic times by the emposition of hands and He has not changed the plan.

We hold that this is necessary, in order to receive the Holy Ghost. Jesus said in John 3:5, "Except a man be born of the water and of the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

In the practice of this rite we show our identity with the New Testament Church.

Brother W. E. Bashor

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### PROBLEMS

Problems, problems, problems! That is what life sometimes seems to be for the young person actively involved in today's sinful world. Yet this should be a wonderful and exciting time of your life. It is just a little bit scary to know you are no longer children and are moving toward adulthood very quickly.

One of the important decisions of this part of your life should be to make the choice of following God and His will. There should be no place in your life for "neutralism." You can not be a neutral person concerning salvation, because neutral is "no-where" and "no where" is spiritual death.

You will never be able to understand yourself nor solve your problems effectively until you determine what you are going to do about God. The decision to believe on Him, as He is revealed in the Bible, will influence every choice you make.

You must understand, too, that you need to center your life on the perfect example of Jesus Christ. You say, "I can't, He was perfect." Yes, but He was also a teenager once. He went through all of the problems you are experiencing and He understands everything you are going through. Your faith can not be an isolated fragment in the total construction of your life. It must involve a total relationship, reaching and stabilizing every facet of your existence. Jesus will provide direction for your academic and social life, as well as your spiritual life.

To deny walking with God carries with it a number of critical implications. Your overall view of human beings as the products of blind evolution... mere accidents of nature without meaning or purpose, is confirmed by rejecting Christ and His plan of salvation. Quite literally, if you reject God, you should feel sorry for yourself and envy the animals. After all, they don't have the worries and cares that you have, and according to the non-believer, will end up just as well off in the end. You are more than an animal, more than "garbage" for the fire.

Remember, Proverbs 9:10 teaches us that "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." The first step toward a life filled with good and worthwhile things is to say, "I believe in God. I acknowledge that He loves me, and I am worth enough that His Son died on Calvary to redeem me. I will live for Him."

Brother Leonard Wertz  
Torreon Navajo Mission

**1981 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES**

Continued from November 15, 1981 Issue

Sunday Evening

Second Speaker: Elder H. Edward Johnson. To the Young People. The Goal of a Boy, Twelve.

I hope that our minds are all centered around Jesus, that is all that counts! That is all that is ever going to count!

Young people are sometimes subject to despair. They hardly know whether they want to live or die. The goal of a twelve year old boy. He was Jesus. We each need a goal. Without a goal we are traveling without direction.

Luke 2:11. That was the day they had been looking for. It had come to pass. Verse 21. He was named Jesus at His circumcision. We should be thinking about Jesus. They took Him to the Temple. Simeon was ready to die after he had seen Jesus. He prophesized to Mary about the work of Jesus. He brings all our evil to light as we read the Word. He grew and waxed strong in body and Spirit.

When He was twelve He went to Jerusalem. Twelve year olds have a place of service in the Church. Jesus can change young boys and girls. They were upset when He was not with them as they left to go home. They returned to find Him with the leaders in the Temple. He was about His Father's business. Each should have the Father's business as their goal. That is a big business. Set a goal.

We need goals in every activity of life. But we need a goal that is greater. We should be like Paul and have a goal of fighting the good fight of faith. After the fight is a crown. We are thankful for the promises and the encouragements in the Bible that tell us that we can make it despite surrounding circumstances. If we have a goal we need not fear tomorrow. To leave this world will be glorious if we have a goal and we are prepared. Tell me what you think of Jesus and I will be able to tell you what I think of you, your faith, your goal. Paul had goals. At first it was to destroy the Church but later it was Christ in his life.

If Jesus had not had a goal even when He was twelve years old would He have been able to over-come Satan. It doesn't matter what the risks are, it is better to be about our Father's business. He knew what His Father's will was. He knew He must obey the Word... "It is written," He said. How much of the Precious Word do you have in mind? Are we determined to be about the Father's business?

Abraham went out but he hardly knew where he went. We hardly know what goal to set in this life. Heaven is our ultimate goal but what about in this life. Heaven is our ultimate goal but what about in this life? What do you expect to be? What are you looking for? It is hard to decide what to do. Today it takes a whole life to get situated. The debts are heavy and it is easy to be overwhelmed and lose courage. When we are overburdened with our earthly goals it is difficult to accomplish our Heavenly goal. Abraham was looking for a city whose builder and maker was God. Is that what you're looking for? You won't find it here on this earth. The closest you will come to it on this earth will be at General Conference and at Lovefeast.

When biographies of great men are written it is the good things that are written. As we look at each other we see pleasant faces but what is within each one? The biographies in the Bible tell the other side of the story. The other side of the life of David comes pretty close to today's conditions.

When we set out a small fruit tree it doesn't look very promising. But with enough faith and patience in a few years that tree will be productive. The young people as long as they have blossoms give hope of a future fruitful life. We need a goal to avoid being barren. Preaching may seem tedious at times. There is a need for a goal amongst the hearers and within the speaker for the message to be effective. If we can't get our minds centered upon the things of God we will not get any attention from those outside. Our thoughts are not only on the young people here but also on those out amongst the drugs and other things that are pulling them down to a devil's Hell. You are going to be those who will rescue some of them. You may be drawing enough. Do not go out there to seek a companion. That is dangerous. If you are strong enough you may draw someone to the Church.

You have a responsibility. You have a life to rule, to keep under subjection to the Word of God. You need discipline. Discipline is more than correction or punishment. It is to be used to turn that life around and to make something of it. The greater discipline is that which each has within rather than that applied by the Church. By the time the Church disciplines you it is already late. The crime, the sin has been committed. You're already disgraced your life. By the time the Church disciplines you and even wins you back, you have marred your life. Discipline should be now. There should be discipline in the home. It is not only doing what the parents wanted but a self-discipline to be in line with them. Without self-discipline you were not a good child. To often we want what we want. In too many homes the children have little regard for the parents and the parents have little love for the children because of the lack of

discipline. No one disciplines anyone else nor themselves. There is a lack of discipline in the schools. If you do not discipline yourselves there, who will? As long as you discipline yourself, no one is going to touch and spoil you. When Jesus faced Satan on the mountain, He came down without a scar. Parents should be more interested in their children, giving them more attention. They should show the same attention as they do for other worldly activities.

What is your goal on Sunday morning? Why do you attend Church? Why attend General Conference? Is it to have fun, to meet others or what? There must be a goal. We must be careful to not go the wrong way.

All are looking for a companion. The ways of the world easily creep in among Christian young people. Love has become too free. What kind of life does it make in after years? Too often it leads to a marriage sooner than expected. Is this the way to start a home? Set a goal about the companion you are seeking. Look for one who is pure, and right. Watch yourself.

Eccles. 12:1. Now is the time to do it. Job 36:5. God despises none, including you, what ever your condition. Job 36:9. How pleasant would it be for Him to shew our works? They can be washed away by the blood of Christ. God is concerned about you. He promises to bless if they return from iniquity, but if they do not, they die in youth and their lives unclean. If you don't give ear to the better things you know, you may die in your young years. It is not necessarily a physical death but a Spiritual death. There is danger but there is yet hope. As long as there is life there is hope. Don't give up on the lost out there. There is hope in Jesus Christ. Set a goal for your life.

Closing: Elder Laverne Keeney.

Are our hearts right with God? Parents must provide for their children — not only temporally but Spiritually as well. The dire prophecies of the world should not be believed but seek rather the treasures of God. If we do not have much here, we do have a wonderful home over there. Jesus promised to prepare a mansion for each of His own. We are to occupy until He comes. Keep yourself unspotted from the world.

To be continued.



The difference between "duty" and "love" is that the first represents Sinai and the second represents Calvary.

## LIFE

Today we are walking in a world that is strange. In the midst of a crowd, we feel very much alone. So often I stop and wonder, what is our aim, our purpose, our mission?

Today one can hardly go on the streets in our own town as crime has taken over. People no longer are safe. We so often stop to think what is our part and place here. Life to me seems a mystery. So many young children are taken away from loved ones. Adults also have their lives snuffed out without any reason. Even our officers are shot. We wonder, why? These things happen and it seems to be getting worse day by day. Children are afraid to go to school or even go out at home to play.

We need more consecrated ministers and Elders who preach the heart-changing message of Salvation, not for money. Today so many ministers don't ask anything of those they take into the church. So there is no change, only their names are on the Church book. Is it any wonder why this old world has gone the way it has? If you have been called to preach, you are responsible for the souls you bring into the fold. If they are not fed on the Word of God, it will be held against you. Let us wake up and make this old world a better place to live. When our grandfathers and grandmothers lived, this world was a safe place to live.

If the great Giver of life is holding our hand, we won't need to worry as we are safe in His care. Our Blessed Bible tells us "In him we live and move and have our being." Our life is a communing between God and us. His eyes are on us. His Spirit sets the pattern according to His plan and we by faith, love and trust, follow as best we can, making this world we live in, a better place.

This life of mine can nothing be  
If I don't give it, Lord to Thee;  
For only Thou canst see ahead  
How rough the way that I must tread.  
And only Thou new life can give,  
When I have lost the will to live;  
When hope has died, and dreams have fled,  
When o'er the wreck my tears are shed.  
Oh, take it, Lord, this life of mine  
And fill it with Thy love divine,  
For only Thou dost know the way,  
That leads me to Eternal Day.

Sister E. M. Alltus

## A VICTOR

Some of us have seen the wonders of the world.

Our eyes growing tired with fascination — for I have seen the eyes of the world...

Have witnessed the minds of broken love in the loneliest places...

Sprinkled with the dew of sorrow.

Some of us have wandered long enough

Tired of the trail of tears that leaves tracks in my heart and soul...

The emptiness you can't bear sometimes or hardly at all.

The dot of light you see in the distance.

But hope and surviving comes strong

For I have emerged a victor and come back!

Brother Eugene Trujillo

Cuba, New Mexico

## OBITUARY

### STELLA RUPP

Sis. Stella Rupp, daughter of Jacob and Mary Flory, was born on April 20, 1889 near Jewell, Ohio and departed this life on October 24, 1981 in her home near Pioneer, Ohio, at the age of 92 years, 6 months and 4 days.

On June 20, 1912, she was united in marriage to Oscar Rupp. To this union were born four children: Henry, of Toledo, Ohio; Glen of Tecumseh, Michigan; Denver of Pioneer, Ohio and Paul of Montpelier, Ohio. Besides her four sons she is survived by seven grandchildren and six great grandchildren, also one brother, Henry Flory, of Defiance, Ohio.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Oscar, on October 7, 1963, a grandson, Ronald, one brother Edward Flory, and a sister Minnie Clapper.

In July, 1902, she accepted Christ as her Saviour and was baptized, becoming a member of the Church of the Brethren. In later years she affiliated with the Dunkard Brethren Church, being a charter member of the Beaver Creek Congregation near Bryan, Ohio. Later she transferred her membership to the Pleasant Ridge Congregation near Montpelier, Ohio, where she remained a faithful member until the time of her death.

Her faithful and sincere devotion to her family and friends will be greatly missed.

Funeral services at the Pleasant Ridge Church, on Tuesday, October 27, 1981, were conducted by Elders Dean St. John, Edward Johnson and William Carpenter.

## MARRIAGE

### JAMISON-SWIHART

Sis. Connie Jamison, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Herman Jamison, Quinter, Kansas and Bro. Delbert Swihart, son of Sis. Beulah Swihart, Goshen, Indiana were united in marriage September 26, 1981 at the home of the bride's parents. Bro. Gordon Jamison performed the marriage ceremony. The couple are at home in Quinter, Kansas.

## NEWS ITEMS

### NOTE OF THANKS

I would like to thank each one for their prayers, visits, flowers and cards during my stay in the hospital and my recuperation at home. Your thoughtfulness brightened the time of my recovery. May the Lord richly bless you.

In Christian Love,  
Sister Anna Myers

### GOLDEN WEDDING

We want to thank our five children for planning a wonderful day to celebrate our fiftieth wedding anniversary.

The Gospel singing was beautiful. We thank each one who brought gifts and cards. Also the ones over the Brotherhood who sent cards and best wishes. God bless each one. We had a wonderful day.

Love to all,  
William and Verta Bashor

### A WORD OF THANKS

Family and friends are the most comforting, caring people I know. They lighten dull moments and brighten dreary days. But that friendship from family and friends never is noticed until a person is away from home. It is then when you look back and see the things that you really miss. The love you never thought was there has suddenly grown. Then is when you realize you never took time to stop and see who all is really caring about you.

I want to thank everyone who sent cards for my birthday. It made it the best birthday I'll ever have — no present will ever make a better day. All the cards touched me very dearly. Thanks again and may God bless you all.

Sister Mabel L. Sweitzer

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LIX

DECEMBER 15, 1981

NO. 24

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## CHRISTMAS

The Manger rough of Bethlehem,  
The bright and shining star,  
The wise men too, who came to see  
The Baby from afar.  
Angelic hosts the anthems sang  
Of "Peace, goodwill to men,"  
While lowly shepherds heard and saw  
Thus Christmas comes again.

These things the story tells anew  
Each year at Christmas time;  
The story of the lowly birth  
Of One who was divine.  
We love this quaint and wond'rous birth  
Within a rugged stall  
While shepherds watched their flocks by night.  
Great hope it brings to all.

- Ruth Sloan Weniger  
Selected by Brother Howard J. Surbey

## THE GIFT OF GIVING

A part of the modern Christmas season is the exchange of gifts. Gifts are given in love and friendship. Whether expected or not, we often receive in return a gift of similar value. This is a gift exchange. It is not gift giving. As long as it does not become a matter of pride, a way of showing up another or poor economics, there is little danger in this custom. It should not be considered as gift giving or even a faint copy of God's Gift to mankind.

God gave His Son not that He might receive something in return, in reality there is nothing that He needs. While He desires and deserves our earnest and hearty praise, His existence is not threatened if He does not receive it. His Gift was given for our benefit. Without that Gift there was no hope for mankind. The only thing close to a hope that existed before the birth of Jesus was the Old Law which was based, symbolically, upon that very Gift. The Old Law, even if adhered to, could not produce righteousness, only an acknowledgement of failure. God's Grace was evident even in that, but His Grace really became available for man's good with the Gospel. When the opportunity to become the sons and daughters of God was given it was an undeserved gift. God was not compelled by any force other than His own love and mercy to extend that gift to us. That is true gift giving.

If our Christmas gift giving were to be a true copy of His giving, there would be no giving with the intention of receiving in return. Jesus spoke of our usual habit of inviting those for a meal, whom we would expect, at some future time, would invite us to a meal with them. He did not condemn this exchange but warned that we should not expect a reward, for the exchange was our reward. He

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## THE BIBLE MONITOR

## DECEMBER 15, 1981

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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prompted us rather to invite those, who because of physical infirmity or economic inability could not return the favor. There would be then a reward for the extended kindness. This principle surely should apply to our gift giving. We can either have the reward of an exchange gift or the reward of God's blessing.

When we consider the gifts God has given to mankind, it is evident we can not outgive God. Our greatest of gifts are meager compared to His. While our giving should be motivated by love and empathy, it is evident that God rewards that giving. Our gifts are not ignored by God. In fact, prosperity is often made possible giving away of what is available to us. As we give, He blesses by returning even more to us. Even if there were no material gain in giving, the emotional gain would make our giving worthwhile. Doing good is superior to hoarding our possessions.

Paul, in speaking of the various talents in the Church, spoke of those who were able to give. He admonished them to give cheerfully. God has blessed some with an abundance of material possessions. There is only so much that can be used for the care of the individual and his family. What more is needed than a good living? God wants us not to waste these things upon our desires but to use them in His service. There are few in this land but what are blessed abundantly compared to those in foreign lands. Even if we do not have great riches, we can still give. God was not slack in His giving, neither should we be even if it demands a high price.

Our giving at Christmas time often presents a problem when shopping. The merchandising in this world is keyed to the worldly, gaudy and unnecessary. It is difficult to select items that are always consistent with our profession. Whether toys, clothing or gadgets, so many are not what Christians should buy, give or receive. This makes it imperative for the Christian to use great discernment in the purchase of gifts for others. What we give should be a witness of Whom we serve. When giving to those from whom we have no hope of return we know that the unnecessary is not the thing that would be helpful to them. When we give it should be with the thought that our gift represents God's giving to us.

Christmas is a time of giving. Make sure that when you give that you realize the difference between giving and exchanging. Then be sure you give — not to receive again — but to help another. This should not be limited to one season of the year — it should be done at all times. You can not outgive God.

## A VISIT FROM HEAVEN

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the land  
Every creature was stirring, as Caesar had planned:  
A census was taken in which every soul  
In the Empire of Rome must be placed on the roll.  
Up from Galilee, out of Nazareth came  
A pair which was Joseph and Mary by name;  
To their city of birth which is called Bethlehem  
They came as descendants of King David's stem.  
There the days were accomplished that she should give birth  
To a son who would reign as King o'er the earth.  
She brought forth her first-born, and with her own hands  
She wrapped the sweet Child in soft swaddling bands;  
In a manger so lowly this life did begin,  
Since there was no room for them in the inn.

In the country the shepherds abode in the field,  
Keeping watch o'er their flocks as in silence they kneeled  
In the shadows of night, with their rods and their staves,  
Having just settled down in the warmth of the caves,  
When out of the sky there shone a great light  
That filled the men's hearts with a terrible fright.  
They sprang from the ground with a leap and a dash  
To see what was causing this unearthly flash.  
'Twas the glory of God shining down on the ground  
With a halo of radiance on the sheep all around.  
When, what to their questioning eyes should draw near,  
But the angel of God with a message: "Don't fear!  
For behold! I bring you good tidings of joy,  
For all men and women, for each girl and boy;  
For to you is born a Saviour this day,  
In the city of David, as prophets did say."

Then suddenly with the bright angel appeared  
A heavenly host, praising God as they cheered;  
"To God in the highest may glory abound,  
On earth peace, and good will to men all around."  
Near at hand, far beyond, on the left, on the right,  
The heavenly seraphs were poised in their flight.  
Then as snowflakes before the fierce storm winds do fly,  
Passing o'er the wide fields, soar up to the sky,  
So up into heaven the angels they flew  
Having given their message so wondrously new.  
Then the shepherds declared with faces aglow:  
"To the village of Bethlehem quickly let's go,  
And see this great thing which has come to pass  
Which the Lord on this night has made known unto us."

There they found Joseph and Mary so mild,  
And in the rough manger the dear little Child.  
So when they had seen Him they made known abroad  
The message as told by the angel of God.  
The people they wondered at that which they heard  
As told by the shepherds in angelic word:  
But Mary, who knew all these things from the start,  
Kept pondering this great event in her heart.  
The shepherds returned giving glory and praise  
To the God of their fathers, the Ancient of Days.  
"To God in the highest may glory abound,  
On earth peace, and good will to men all around."

- Orlando Wiebe

Selected by Sister Ruthanna Sauerwein

## LO, THE STAR

"Lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy." Matt. 2:9-10.

The wise men had begun searching for Jesus, King of the Jews, quite some time before they arrived in Jerusalem and inquired where He had been born. They were travelling in anticipation of seeing Jesus and being able to worship Him, but didn't know exactly where to locate Him. In Jerusalem, they asked for help from Herod, the one least likely to want to help them find the King of the Jews. After all, he was the king, and he intended to stay on as king. But God had directed the wise men to Jerusalem and made sure they could complete their journey.

Herod was troubled and so was all Jerusalem when the news got out that the wise men had come seeking a newborn King of the Jews. Some probably wondered what it all meant while others hoped it were true. Herod was concerned about holding on to his throne and was not happy about this sudden threat to his position. We are not told all that was said, but Herod got the message and demanded of the Jewish leaders to know where Christ was to be born. The answer was Bethlehem of Judea, about five miles from Jerusalem.

Herod was not about to tolerate any rival, regardless of age, even though he said he wanted to worship Jesus. There was no joy in his heart about Jesus' birth, only anger. As soon as he learned of Jesus' birth, he began working on a plan to get rid of Him. Herod was not concerned about God's will, nor His promise of a Savior. His thoughts were centered on his own selfish desires and he caused much heartache by ordering the children to be killed in and around Bethlehem. What should have been a time of rejoicing over the Savior's birth had become a time of grief.

The wise men were sent to Bethlehem, for this is where the chief priests and scribes knew Jesus was to be born. Strange, is it not, that none of them were out looking for Jesus? God had revealed to His chosen people where the Messiah was to be born, when, how, and what for. There should have been joy in their hearts when they heard about the star, but there was none. They were physically close to Jesus, but their hearts were very far away.

The wise men rejoiced when they entered Bethlehem, even though they hadn't seen Jesus yet. The star led them and when it stood still, they knew they were close to Jesus. By this time, Jesus was no longer in the manger, as evidenced by His age — a young child, and the location — in a house (2:11). They found Him with Mary, His mother. There is no evidence that she was alarmed at the coming of the wise men, but surely she must have wondered about their worship and the gifts they presented, and their joy over her Son.

The wise men were overjoyed when they saw the star had stopped and pointed out to them exactly where Jesus was. The light was there and they followed it. They were filled with joy even though they hadn't seen Jesus yet, because they knew they soon would see Him. God used the light of the star to lead them, an experience they probably never forgot. Others may have seen the star, but unless God gave them understanding of it, it was just an unusual star. For the wise men, it was the way to Jesus.

Have you been seeking Jesus? Do you want to be close to Him, to have the light to know just where He is? You won't have a star to follow, but you will be given light — from God's Word. You won't have gold, and so forth to give, but you can give your heart and life to Him. You can't see Jesus now, but you can be close to Him in your heart. The wise men were filled with joy just in knowing they were close to Jesus and you can have that joy, too. He will come and live in your heart if you ask Him to.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## THAT WONDROUS NAME

In Ephesians 1:21 we read, "Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, AND EVERY NAME THAT IS NAMED, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:" The previous verses tell us that this is referring to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

In Isaiah 7:14 we read, "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." We believe this refers to the birth of Christ and that those versions which translate this verse "a young

woman" are in error. The fulfillment is found in Matthew 1:23, "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."

Another verse we see as a prophecy of Jesus Christ is Isaiah 9:6. We would like to comment briefly on the various portions of this verse. "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given:" In Matthew 17:5 we read, "While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." In I John 5:12 we read, "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life."

"... and the government shall be upon his shoulder." In Colossians 1:13 we read, ("Giving thanks unto the father," vs. 12) "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:" We do not feel that this prophecy has references to the secular governments of this world although we do acknowledge the fact that God is sovereign over all governments and that Jesus Christ will, ultimately, rule over all the world. In I Peter 2:9 the Church is described as "an holy nation." We feel that the confusion of the two Kingdoms is causing problems in the church today.

"... and HIS NAME shall be called Wonderful." In Matthew 2:15 we read, "And when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, Hosanna to the son of David; they were sore displeased." Jesus Christ was wonderful in His actions, He was wonderful in His position, (the Son of God), He was wonderful in His love, and He was wonderful in His death. With the song writer we can surely say "Oh what a wonderful Savior."

"Counsellor": The Greek word "parakletos" rendered "advocate" in the King James Version, is defined as "counsels with such authority as a legal advocate (lawyer) has for his client." I John 2:1 reads, "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate (counsellor) with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous."

"The mighty God": It would require an entire writing to do justice to this phrase. Let it suffice us to say that the Bible, without doubt, declares Jesus Christ to be one hundred percent God and one hundred per cent man. We might add without the reality of the virgin birth this is impossible.

"The everlasting Father": In John 10:30 we read, "I (Jesus) and my Father are one." And in John 8:24 we read, "I (Jesus) said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins." Then in verse 27 we

read, "They understood not that he spake to them of the Father." Since we do not believe a human mind can fully grasp this truth we will not endeavor to explain it. While we reject the "Jesus Only" theory, we affirm that in the mystery of the Trinity, Jesus Christ and the Father are one.

"The Prince of Peace." In John 14:27 we read, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you..." We believe the most important peace Jesus Christ gives us is peace with God. This is our salvation through His shed blood. After we experience this peace then we can live in peace with all men as Jesus and the Apostles taught.

In Acts 4:12 we read, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is NONE OTHER NAME under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." In Philippians 2:9-10 we read, "Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and GIVEN HIM A NAME WHICH IS ABOVE EVERY NAME: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, ..."

Let it be our desire to bring honor and glory to this high and holy name. Let us desire to worship Him in word and deed. There are those who would cast shame on this holy name by using it as a curse word. Others try to bring this holy name down to a purely human level by declaring that Jesus Christ was not divine. Sadly, sometimes we bring reproach to this holy name by deeds we do.

We close with that glorious phrase, "Hallelujah, what a Savior."

Brother James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, Pa. 17078

## EDUCATION

Continued from December 1, 1981 Issue

### 2. The Responsibility of Education

Whose responsibility is it to educate our children? Again, let us turn to the Word. "And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." Deut. 6:6-7. "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Eph. 6:4.

Paul spoke of the instruction that Timothy received in his youth and the great value of it. II Tim. 3:15 says, "And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make the wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."

It is very plain to see that the responsibility of our children's education rests on us as parents. The Church has also been given a part in the instructing of God's people including the youth.

In Bible times the youth were instructed by the spiritual leaders. This teaching took place in the Temple. As we study God's Word it is plain to see that the only two institutions given the right and responsibility of instructing our youth are the home and Church. Over the years the state has slowly and quietly snatched away the God-given opportunity of training our children in the ways of the Lord. However, may we clearly understand that while the opportunity was laid aside, the responsibility still rests squarely on the shoulders of us, the parents.

We, as parents, are responsible for the environment in which our children dwell both while they are with us and while away from our care. It becomes necessary at times for us to be away from our children for various reasons. May we never forget that before God we are still responsible for the child.

We are ever so careful to see that they are in "safe hands" so as to protect their physical bodies from danger. Are we just as careful to see that their eternal souls are in good hands? We must never entrust our children to anyone that doesn't have a love and concern for the eternal destiny of their souls.

With this truth in mind I ask, how could we ever face a Holy God and yet send our children to a secular school that not only ignores God, but often mocks and ridicules Him and His Holy Word?

"For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; ... So then they that are in the flesh CAN NOT PLEASE God." Romans 8:5-8. If you place your children in the care of carnally minded, unregenerated teachers, don't be surprised if they want to live and act like the world and rebel against the ways of the Church. That's where you put them. That's the way you taught them for in essence you are that teacher because of your God-given responsibility. (Note: I am not saying that all teachers are ungodly. There are some born again teachers in public schools but the percentage is very small. And even if the teachers are Christians, the philosophy, curriculum, and environment is still corrupt.)

In Deut. 6:5 we are given what Christ called many years later "The Great Commandment." "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might." The following verse stresses the importance of this commandment to us as God's people. Loving and serving God isn't just a side-line part of life but rather our life should be literally "wrapped around" God and our duties to Him.

God must be the very center of our lives. All that we do in life must be done for Him and to His glory. Verse 7 plainly commands that this principle is to be taught both by precept and example to our children. Might we also take notice as to WHEN it is to be taught. It isn't just on Sunday or before and after school. It is our duty to hold the Word of God before them every hour they are awake. They need to learn that "From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the Lord's name is to be praised." Psalms 113:3.

To have our children in a secular school, learning the attitudes and ways of the heathen is sad. On the other hand it is hard for me to think of the great opportunity that is forfeited. During those fifteen thousand hours of schooling there are hundreds of opportunities to mold a young life to the will of the Lord. These years of a child's life are SO important. So many attitudes and priorities are set in these critical years. These pure young minds need to be kept from the moral corruption so prevalent in the state schools. The world is so full of immorality, immodesty, and free love that it chills the soul of even the strongest of Christians. How can we expect our young people to pass through this fire for twelve years and not be consumed or at least stunned spiritually? May God help us not to fail our children in a matter so important as this!

Perhaps you say, "Well, I went to public school and it didn't hurt me." Beloved, how can we compare our lives to what they COULD have been if we'd been brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord? Besides, schools are ever getting worse. I'm sure many of you parents have NO IDEA of some of the things that take place in school!

To be continued  
Brother James Meyers  
R. 1, Dallas Center, Iowa

## **THE CHILDREN'S PAGE**

### **"SELL ALL THAT YOU HAVE AND GIVE TO THE POOR"**

Matt. 19:16-26; Mark 10:17-27; Luke 18:18-27

Almost everyone would like to be rich — to have plenty — so they would never go hungry or do without. There was a rich, young man who had great possessions. He was also a ruler. He had a position that others looked up to. He was evidently a serious-minded person, because he came running to Jesus and knelt down to Him and said, "Good Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" This is a question that should concern everybody.

This young man may have heard Jesus talking about eternal life at one time. He wanted Jesus to give him assurance.

Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? There is none good but one, that is God: but if you would enter into life, keep the commandments."

The young man said unto Him, "Which?" And Jesus said, "Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Honor thy father and thy mother and Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

The young man must have lived a good life — at least he thought so — because he said, "All these things have I kept from my youth up. What lack I yet?" I believe he thought Jesus would say something like this, "You're living a real good life — much better than many around you — just keep up the good work and everything will be all right." But Jesus didn't say what he expected. Jesus said unto him, "If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me."

What do you think the young man did? When he heard what Jesus said, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions. Luke's gospel says he was very rich. It is really a sad story. This young man had the opportunity to follow Jesus. Jesus could do anything. He could have blessed this man in any way — if only the young man would have been willing to give up everything he had for Jesus. He had a high position: if he would sell all that he had and give it to the poor, I expect his rulership would have been threatened. He likely inherited everything up and starting at the bottom. He didn't realize that Jesus had something to give him that was worth more than all the possessions, money and prestige that he had or that anyone else had! All the riches of the world cannot compare with what Jesus can give. Jesus can give us love, joy and a place that passeth understanding. Nothing in this life is worth so much and besides this He has promised, if we follow Him, He will give us eternal life. "My sheep hear my voice and they follow me and I give unto them eternal life."

Jesus doesn't require everybody to sell everything they have and give it to the poor, but if what we have is worth more to us than Jesus, it is better to give it away than to lose Jesus Christ. We should be willing to use everything we have for the cause of Christ.

Jesus said, "How hardly shall they that have riches enter the kingdom of God. It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

The disciples said, "Who then can be saved?"

But Jesus beheld them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

Brother Rudy Cover

## COUNTING THE COST

When you are about to purchase something, such as a car, tractor, or any type of major or minor purchase, what do you do first? I'm sure you check around to find the best bargain for your money and the best quality your money can buy. You consider this to be good stewardship of your money. But sometimes you want something bad enough you will give just about anything the seller would ask for it. This can get you into trouble. You must always be careful to consider your financial situation first and count the cost.

The cost we want to consider now is that of serving the Lord. When we said, "Jesus, will you come into my heart and lead me down life's pathway," did we consider the cost? I would like to take my thoughts from Luke 14:26-33. Jesus said, "If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. For which of you intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it. Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all' that behold it begin to mock him, Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish. Or what king, going to war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace. So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple."

When we asked the Lord into our life, did we think about ever having to hate our family or even our own life? This is a solemn thought. Is there a day coming when our love for our families might get us condemned? We're thinking of a time when you might have a conviction in your heart that your family would think was unnecessary. How would you stand?

The first verse tells about a sacrifice we might have to make in the future, but there are daily sacrifices that we should make every day, lest we fall short.

The important price we must pay as a Christian is that of putting off the "old man." This should start when we ask Jesus into our life. We read time and time again in His Precious Word where He has told us to separate ourselves from evil. Only through prayer and daily repentance can we do this. Satan spends much time trying to discourage and deceive the Christian. II Cor. 6:17,

"Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separate saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you." And there is a wonderful blessing in store for us, if we obey, in verse 18 of the same chapter. "And will be a Father to you and you shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." I would like for us to notice that it wasn't Paul who said this, but the scripture says, "saith the Lord Almighty."

Let us think for a moment of the questions asked us while on our knees in the baptismal waters, especially the second and third ones. "Do you willingly renounce the Devil with all the sinful pleasures and practices of this world?" "Do you covenant with God through Christ to be faithful unto death?" We all answered "Yes." Brothers and Sisters, what is our word valued at?

The price we pay for serving the Lord may seem expensive at times, and it probably will be if we are truly following Him. We may lose some friends, or so-called friends, or maybe even some of our family, as well as the pleasures and practices the world so delights in. But whatever the price, it will be worth it all to hear our Lord say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Enter in."

Brother David Snyder  
Quinter, Kansas 67752

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### DRINKING

Drinking alcohol is glorified by all facets of the media today. Young people, you are fed the false statement that the "beautiful people drink and enjoy life!" But you owe it to yourself to become knowledgeable of what the old "demon rum" can do to you.

Historically, the Old Testament illustrates the problems it has caused. In Genesis 19, we see Lot's daughters persuading their father to drink wine until he was incapable of recognizing them. Then they lured him into the act of incest. King Belshazzar in Daniel 5:1-4, was presiding over a drunken feast when the mysterious handwriting of judgment appeared on the wall.

Looking at alcohol chemically, it is a clear, volatile, flammable chemical related to the drug Seconal and other barbiturates. It is not a food and has no essential nutrients. It is absorbed through the tongue and gums even before it is swallowed.

As the blood alcohol level goes up, the motor centers of the brain are depressed. It affects the brain's layers indirectly by robbing them of oxygen vital for the functioning of their cells. It causes the red eye effect by causing the capillaries in the eyes to rupture and hemorrhage. Alcohol interferes with metabolism of the

heart cells, overworks the liver, and generally "defiles the temple of God."

Manufacturers and sellers of alcohol would like you to believe that "everybody drinks it." They are wrong! Only those who want to follow Satan rather than Christ are taking part in drinking.

You say that "wine was served in Bible time occasions!" True, the fruit of the vine was used. But why? In the climate of Palestine, fermentation began immediately because of no refrigeration. It was weak and juice-like as compared to today's fortified, alcoholic beverages.

Consider this! Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. "Ye are bought with a price" Paul teaches us. You are to set an example and not be a stumblingblock to weaker members or friends. If someone were to follow your example of drinking, they could easily end up in physical and spiritual death.

In Cor. 6:9-10, "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? ... Be not deceived: Neither (list of sins) ... nor DRUNKARDS... shall inherit the kingdom of God." That's serious business, young people. Will you let such a "nothing chemical" rob you of eternal life? Think of it!

Brother Leonard Wertz  
Torreon Mission

## THE CHRISTIAN SPIRIT

Christ came to seek and to save that which was lost. Only through Him, can we receive eternal life. His greatest concern was for the welfare of others. When He was here on earth He was much concerned about helping the sick and afflicted in this life. In His mission, He performed many miracles of healing. The most important thing in this life is to be healed from the infirmities of sin, so we can have a better place to look forward to when this life is past. Christ's mission was for the good of others. His cleansing power is available for all.

"Then Agrippa said unto Paul, Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian. And Paul said, I would to God that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am, except these bonds." Acts 26:28-29. The selfish spirit exists in the lives of those who walk after the flesh. The Holy Spirit exists in the lives of true Christians. "But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his." Rom. 8:9.

We should bear the infirmities of the weak and not please ourselves. Christ suffered for sins, the just for the unjust that He might bring us unto God. Christ was concerned about the welfare

of others. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." If we are true and faithful we can look forward to a better place to come. "Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf." I Pet. 4:16.

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## NEWS ITEMS

### FROM THE EDITOR

The Editor wishes to thank all who have had a part in the success of the Monitor during the past year. The recent influx of articles has been especially gratifying. Thank you for the articles, selections, subscriptions and especially the prayers.

The Editor and his family wishes each one a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### FOR PRIMARY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

For those who would like to use the books, "Old Testament Bible Stories For Children," used three years ago, we have pictures for coloring to go along with the stories.

Those wishing to have the pictures write to Bro. Warren Smith.

We still have a few books for teachers and assistant teachers only. If you wish books write to Bro. William Carpenter.

Bible Study Board



## SILENT TEARS

If we could only see the tears  
That never meet the eye  
But stay within the heart  
And nourish on each sigh;  
We would be kinder in the life  
And greet each friend with cheer,  
And always use a helping hand  
To aid each silent tear!

- Anonymous

Selected by Sister Eileen Broadwater

## DAILY DEVOTIONS FOR JANUARY, 1982

### DELIVER

Memory Verse: Isa. 43:19

Behold, I will do a new thing;  
now it shall spring forth; shall  
ye not know it? I will even make  
a way in the wilderness, and  
rivers in the desert.

Fri. 1 - Isa. 43:1-21

Sat. 2 - II Kings 3:1-27

Memory Verse: II Kings 19:11

Behold, thou hast heard what the  
kings of Assyria have done to all  
lands, by destroying them utterly;  
and shalt thou be delivered?

Sun. 3 - II Kings 12:1-16

Mon. 4 - II Kings 17:1-21

Tues. 5 - II Kings 17:22-41

Wed. 6 - II Kings 18:1-18

Thur. 7 - II Kings 18:19-37

Fri. 8 - II Kings 19:1-19

Sat. 9 - II Kings 19:20-37

Memory Verse: II Kings 20:6

And I will add unto thy days  
fifteen years; and I will deliver  
thee and this city out of the hand  
of the king of Assyria; and I will  
defend this city for mine own  
sake, and for my servant David's  
sake.

Sun. 10 - II Kings 20:1-21

Mon. 11 - II Kings 21:1-18

Tues. 12 - II Kings 22:1-20

Wed. 13 - I Chron. 5:18-26

Thur. 14 - I Chron. 14:8-17

Fri. 15 - I Chron. 16:7-36

Sat. 16 - II Chron. 12:1-16

Memory Verse: I Chron. 5:20

And they were helped against  
them, and the Hagarites were  
delivered into their hand, and all  
that were with them: for they  
cried to God in the battle, and  
he was intreated of them;  
because they put their trust in  
him.

Sun. 17 - II Chron. 16:1-14

Mon. 18 - II Chron. 18:1-17

Tues. 19 - II Chron. 18:18-34

Wed. 20 - II Chron. 24:1-27

Thur. 21 - II Chron. 25:1-28

Fri. 22 - II Chron. 28:1-27

Sat. 23 - II Chron. 29:1-19

Memory Verse: II Chron. 16:8

Were not the Ethiopians and the  
lubims a huge host, with very  
many chariots and horsemen?  
yet, because thou didst rely on  
the Lord, he delivered them into  
thine hand.

Sun. 24 - II Chron. 29:20-36

Mon. 25 - II Chron. 32:1-16

Tues. 26 - II Chron. 32:17-33

Wed. 27 - Ezra 8:21-36

Thur. 28 - Ezra 9:1-15

Fri. 29 - Neh. 9:1-19

Sat. 30 - Neh. 9:20-38

Memory Verse: II Chron. 25:15

Wherefore the anger of the Lord  
was kindled against Amaziah,  
and he sent unto him a prophet,  
which said unto him, Why hast  
thou sought after the gods of the  
people, which could not deliver  
their own people out of thine  
hand?

Sun. 31 - Est. 4:1-17

Memory Verses: Ezra 8:31

Then we departed from the river  
of Ahava on the twelfth day of  
the first month, to go unto  
Jerusalem: and the hand of our  
God was upon us, and he  
delivered us from the hand of  
the enemy, and of such as lay in  
wait by the way.

Est. 4:14

For if thou altogether hold thy  
peace at this time, then shall  
there enlargement and deliver-  
ance arise to the Jews from  
another place; but thou and thy  
father's house shall be destroyed:  
and who knoweth whether thou  
art come to the kingdom for such  
a time as this?











